

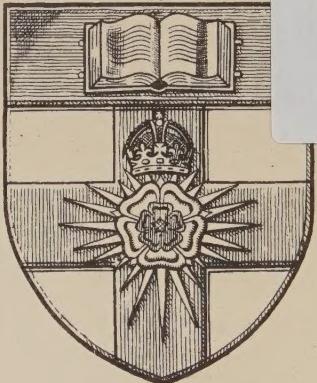
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Records of the Borough of Leicester

Being a series of Extracts from the Archives
of the Corporation of Leicester, 1603-1688

Edited by

HELEN STOCKS

LATE SCHOLAR OF LADY MARGARET HALL, OXFORD

With the assistance of

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FELLOW OF ST JOHN'S COLLEGE, OXFORD

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P R E F A C E

THIS volume of the Leicester Borough Records, covering the years 1603 to 1688, although not, strictly speaking, a continuation of the three volumes published under the editorship of the late Miss MARY BATESON, has been prepared on much the same lines as those so well laid down by her.

The period included was one of great changes in the kingdom which were not without their effect, for good or ill, upon the civic life. It has also its own special points of interest both local and general in character.

The Editor has had the great advantage throughout of the kind advice and help of Mr W. H. STEVENSON, Fellow of St John's College, Oxford; indeed without such assistance she could not have completed the work.

J. E. STOCKS.

MINSTER PRECINCTS,
PETERBOROUGH.

May, 1923.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
PREFACE	v
 INTRODUCTION:	
I. The Charters	xxvii
II. The Bishop's fee and outlying jurisdictions	xxx
III. The town lands and revenues and their management	xxxiii
IV. The government of the town in trade and industry	xl
V. Leicester under the Stuart monarchy and the Commonwealth	xlv
 ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS	
	lviii
I. Letter from Privy Council. March 25, 1603	I
II. Common Hall. May 13, 1603	2
III. Common Hall. June 10, 1603	2
IV. Meeting of Mayor and the Twenty-four. June 19, 1603	3
V. Records of royal visits. June 23, 1603	3
VI. Letter from the Wine Office. June 21, 1603	4
VII. Dismissal from the Forty-eight. July 4, 1603	4
VIII. Meeting of the Twenty-four. Dec. 2, 1603	5
IX. Meeting of the Twenty-four. Dec. 7, 1603	5
X. Letter from the Earl of Huntingdon. Dec. 8, 1603	5
XI. Letter from Thomas Russell. Dec. 28, 1603	6
XII. Meeting of Mayor and the Twenty-four. Jan. 17, 1603/4	6
XIII. Order from Privy Council. Feb. 28, 1603/4	6
XIV. Chamberlains' Accounts. 1602-3	8
XV. Meeting of Mayor, Recorder, and the Twenty-four. April 8, 1604	12
XVI. Calendar of loose papers relating to renewal of Charter and question of Bishop's Fee	13
XVII. Recital of facts relating to Bishop's Fee	18
XVIII. Petition for fee farm of Newark Grange	19
XIX. Common Hall. May 2, 1604	20
XX. Common Hall. June 15, 1604	20
XXI. The Frith Closes. July 27, 1604	20
XXII. Preparation for the visit of Duke Charles. Aug. 9, 1604	20
XXIII. Meeting of the Twenty-four. Aug. 19, 1604	21
XXIV. House of Correction. Sep. 27, 1604	21
XXV. Meeting of the Twenty-four. Oct. 3, 1604	21
XXVI. Common Hall. Oct. 12, 1604	22
XXVII. Papers relating to search for Papists. Nov. 1604	22
XXVIII. Common Hall. Jan. 4, 1604/5	24
XXIX. Common Hall. Jan. 10, 1604/5	24
XXX. Common Hall. Jan. 18, 1604/5	24
XXXI. Papers relating to murder of Mrs Clarke. Feb. 1604/5	25

	PAGE
XXXII. Sabbath Day regulations	26
XXXIII. Extracts from Letters on Town Business. 1604-5	27
XXXIV. Chamberlains' Accounts. 1603-4	28
XXXV. Letter from the Mayor. April 17, 1605	33
XXXVI. Letter to the Deputy Mayor and Aldermen. May 3, 1605	33
XXXVII. Common Hall. July 18, 1605	36
XXXVIII. Shop closing on Sabbath Day. 1605	36
XXXIX. Common Hall. Aug. 14, 1605	37
XL. Meeting of the Twenty-four and the Forty-eight. Sep. 30, 1605	37
XLI. Papers relating to Gunpowder Plot. Nov. 1605	37
XLII. Assize of Candles. Dec. 1605	41
XLIII. Meeting of the Twenty-four. Jan. 12, 1605/6	42
XLIV. Order to arrest Jesuits. Jan. 23, 1605/6	42
XLV. Meeting of the Twenty-four. March 6, 1605/6	42
XLVI. Letters relating to buildings in Market Place	43
XLVII. Common Hall. 1605	44
XLVIII. Petition for extension of borough jurisdiction in Bishop's Fee. 1604-5	44
XLIX. Chamberlains' Accounts. 1604-5	45
L. Order to Constable. March 31, 1606	47
LI. Meeting of the Twenty-four. May 18, 1606	47
LII. Common Hall. June 25, 1606	48
LIII. Common Hall. Aug. 13, 1606	48
LIV. Election of Mayor. Aug. 13, 1606	48
LV. Meeting of Mayor, Recorder etc. Sep. 3, 1606	48
LVI. Meeting of Mayor and the Twenty-four. Oct. 5, 1606	49
LVII. Extract from letter from R. Pilkington. Nov. 14, 1606	50
LVIII. A Meeting of "Mr Mayor and others." Nov. 17, 1606	50
LIX. Common Hall. Dec. 19, 1606	50
LX. Common Hall. Jan. 30, 1606/7	51
LXI. Extract from letter from Mr Ward to Mayor. Feb. 4, 1606/7	51
LXII. Common Hall. March 6, 1606/7	51
LXIII. Mr Chettell's Accounts. July 20, 1607	52
LXIV. Common Hall. March 20, 1606/7	52
LXV. Assessment for subsidy in Bishop's Fee. 1605-6	52
LXVI. Petition of Company of Waits and Musicians	53
LXVII. Sabbath Day regulation	54
LXVIII. Chamberlains' Accounts. 1605-6	54
LXIX. Common Hall. April 8, 1607	58
LXX. Meeting of the Twenty-four. April 29, 1607	58
LXXI. Post wages of Edward Benskin	59
LXXII. Papers relating to enclosure riots	59
LXXIII. Common Hall. Aug. 13, 1607	65
LXXIV. Common Hall. Nov. 20, 1607	65
LXXV. Common Hall. Jan. 20, 1607/8	65
LXXVI. Voting of the Companies	66
LXXVII. Common Hall. March 8, 1607/8.	67
LXXVIII. Chamberlains' Accounts. 1606-7	67
LXXVIII. Borough of Leicester versus John Okes	74
LXXIX. Orders regulating the sale of Barley	74

Table of Contents

ix

	PAGE	
LXXX.	Letter from Lord Huntingdon. June 1, 1608	75
LXXXI.	Letter to Mr Wm. Morton at Leicester. June 3, 1608	75
LXXXII.	Letter from Lord Huntingdon. Sep. 28, 1608	76
LXXXIII.	Letter relating to the Musters. Oct. 23, 1608	76
LXXXIV.	Common Hall. Dec. 23, 1608	77
LXXXV.	Letter from Mayor to Recorder concerning the Charter. Feb. 2, 1608/9	77
LXXXVI.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1607-8	78
LXXXVII.	Charter of James I. April 17, 1609	79
LXXXVIII.	Common Hall. May 6, 1609	89
LXXXIX.	Papers relating to the Stewardship. 1609	89
XC.	Meeting of the Mayor and his Brethren. Oct. 2, 1609	92
XCI.	Meeting of the Mayor and his Brethren. Oct. 6, 1609	93
XCII.	Common Hall. Dec. 18, 1609	93
XCIII.	Meeting of the Mayor, Aldermen and the eldest of the Twenty- four and the Forty-eight. Feb. 19, 1609/10	93
XCIV.	Meeting of the Twenty-four. 1609	94
XCV.	Common Hall. 1609	94
XCVI.	The Mayor's Oath	95
XCVII.	Questions to the Recorder	96
XCVIII.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1608-9	96
XCIX.	Minutes of Common Hall. March 28, 1610	99
C.	Letter from Judge Parry. July 7, 1610	100
CI.	Doctors and the Pestilence. July 26, 1610	100
CII.	Sir Thomas White's Gift. Aug. 24, 1610	101
CIII.	Common Hall. Aug. 31, 1610	101
CIV.	Extract from letter from Mayor to Recorder. Sep. 17, 1610 . .	102
CV.	Common Hall. Sep. 19, 1610	102
CVI.	Apportionment of Sir Thomas White's money. Sep. 24, 1610 . .	102
CVII.	Letter about the suspension of market because of the Plague. Nov. 4, 1610	103
CVIII.	Common Hall. Nov. 29, 1611	103
CIX.	Proclamation relating to lease of land. Dec. 10, 1610	104
CX.	Change of place for fair. Dec. 8, 1610	105
CXI.	Meeting of Mayor and some Aldermen. Dec. 27, 1610	105
CXII.	Meeting of the Twenty-four. Jan. 25, 1610/11	106
CXIII.	Letter from George Wadland. Feb. 8, 1610/11	106
CXIV.	Thomas Wright's case before the Mayor and Aldermen. Feb. 16, 1610/11	106
CXV.	Common Hall. 1610	107
CXVI.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1609-10	107
CXVII.	The Newark. 1611	109
CXVIII.	Taxation for Plague stricken. March 31, 1611	110
CXIX.	Papers relating to Newark Hospital. 1611	111
CXX.	Letter to the Recorder about the Plague. June 2, 1611	114
CXXI.	Letter to the Bishop about Monthly Preachers. Sep. 8, 1611 . .	115
CXXII.	Papers relating to a suspected Papist. Oct. 1611	115
CXXIII.	Letter to the Bishop relating to the fall of St Leonard's roof. Nov. 30, 1611	116
CXXIV.	A refractory apprentice. Dec. 29, 1611	117

PAGE		
CXXXV.	Claims to places in the Newark. Jan. 30, 1611/12	118
CXXXVI.	Letter from Lutterworth about the Plague	118
CXXXVII.	Archbishop of Macedonia	119
CXXXVIII.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1610-11	119
CXXXIX.	Wood stealing at Bradgate. April 16, 1612	121
CXXX.	Letter relating to sale of town houses. June 2, 1612	121
CXXXI.	Common Hall. July 17, 1612	123
CXXXII.	Common Hall. July 17, 1612	123
CXXXIII.	Common Hall. July 27, 1612	124
CXXXIV.	Examination of a man before the Magistrates. Aug. 2, 1612	124
CXXXV.	Letter from the Recorder about the King's Visit. Aug. 9, 1612	124
CXXXVI.	The Bakers' Case. 1611-12	125
CXXXVII.	Judge's lodgings in Leicester. March 2, 1612/13	128
CXXXVIII.	Dispute between Lord Gray and the Bakers. Nov. 12, 1613	129
CXXXIX.	Wm. Ludlam's Will. 1612	130
CXL.	Letter to Lord Huntingdon about Lenten Regulations. Jan. 6, 1612/13	130
CXLI.	Common Hall. 1612	131
CXLII.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1611-12	131
CXLIII.	New fairs at Ashby de la Zouche. April 15, 1613	134
CXLIV.	Letter from Henry Gray. Oct. 22, 1613	135
CXLV.	Letters relating to purchase of the Grange land. 1613	135
CXLVI.	Letter from William Hericke. Feb. 26, 1613/14	137
CXLVII.	Letter to Sir Thomas Parry, Chancellor of Duchy of Lancaster. 1613-14	137
CXLVIII.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1612-13	139
CXLIX.	Letter to Parliamentary Burgesses. May 9, 1614	140
CL.	Papers relating to the King's visit to Leicester. June 27, 1614	141
CLI.	Letter from Edmund Lowe. July 13, 1614	141
CLII.	Papers relating to claim of toll at Gainsborough. July 16, 1614	142
CLIII.	Common Hall. Sep. 21, 1614	145
CLIV.	Petition of Wm. Harrie	146
CLV.	Letter from John Gibb. 1613-14	147
CLVI.	Letters relating to Parliamentary election. 1614?	147
CLVII.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1613-14	149
CLVIII.	Meeting of Mayor and Justices. Nov. 22, 1615	152
CLIX.	Taxation for Musters. Nov. 28, 1615	152
CLX.	"Remembrances to M ^r Recorder"	153
CLXI.	Defiance of Mayor's authority. Dec. 16, 1615	153
CLXII.	Farthing Tokens. Dec. 16, 1615	154
CLXIII.	Exaction of fines on false pretences. Feb. 17, 1615/16	155
CLXIV.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1614-15	156
CLXV.	Letter to Bishop of Lincoln. May 1, 1616	157
CLXVI.	Extracts from Proclamation concerning a doctor. June 10, 1616	158
CLXVII.	Papers relating to a Recusant. 1616	159
CLXVIII.	Extracts of a letter from Mr Harvey. Dec. 18, 1616	160
CLXIX.	Meeting of the Mayor and Aldermen. Jan. 15, 1616/17	161
CLXX.	Common Hall. March 7, 1616/17	161
CLXXI.	Letter to Lord Huntingdon. March 22, 1616/17	161
CLXXII.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1615-16	161

Table of Contents

xii

	PAGE	
CLXXXIII.	Papers relating to Newark Hospital. 1617/18	164
CLXXXIV.	Letter from Recorder. April 18, 1617	167
CLXXXV.	Dispute as to right of way in Forest. Aug. 4, 1617	168
CLXXXVI.	Common Hall. Aug. 8, 1617	168
CLXXXVII.	Common Hall. Aug. 30, 1617	169
CLXXXVIII.	Papers relating to Shambles and Drapery. Sep. 5, 1617	169
CLXXXIX.	Wood stealing at Grooby. Jan. 1617/18	170
CLXXX.	Petition to King	170
CLXXXI.	Meeting of the Mayor and Aldermen. Oct. 27, 1617	171
CLXXXII.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1616-17	171
CLXXXIII.	Common Hall. March 31, 1618	172
CLXXXIV.	Meeting of the Mayor, some Aldermen and Chamberlains. April 20, 1618	173
CLXXXV.	Letter to Merchants of Staple. April 23, 1618	173
CLXXXVI.	Extract from letter to Sir Thomas Hasilridge. April 23, 1618	174
CLXXXVII.	Letter to Recorder. May 1, 1618	174
CLXXXVIII.	Lottery for Plantation of Virginia. May 2, 1618	175
CLXXXIX.	Letter from Atherton concerning toll. May 7, 1618	176
CXC.	Letter from George Wadland. May 9, 1618	176
CXCI.	Letter relating to the Licensing of Alehouses. Nov. 3, 1618 . .	176
CXCII.	Extract from Robert Heyrick's Will. Jan. 13, 1618/19 . . .	177
CXCIII.	Letter from the Recorder. March 8, 1618/19	177
CXCIV.	Charter of Staple of Wool. March 12, 1618/19	178
CXCV.	Petition concerning dikes on common land	181
CXCVI.	Archer's Land	181
CXCVII.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1617-18	182
CXCVIII.	Decree concerning claim to exact toll	183
CXCIX.	Papers relating to Newark Hospital. 1620	184
CC.	Apprenticeship of Servant. April 27, 1619	186
CCI.	Common Hall. June 20, 1619	186
CCII.	Common Hall. Sep. 3, 1619	186
CCIII.	Meeting of the Mayor and other officials. Sep. 15, 1619 . .	187
CCIV.	Common Hall. Nov. 26, 1619	187
CCV.	Disturbance in St Martin's Church. Dec. 3, 1619	188
CCVI.	Fines for breaking Assize of Ale. 1619	188
CCVII.	Order relating to Apprenticeship. 1615-20	188
CCVIII.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1618-19	189
CCIX.	Examination before Magistrates. May 2, 1620	191
CCX.	Letter from Lord Huntingdon. June 19, 1620	192
CCXI.	Letter addressed to the Mayor and Justices. July 5, 1620 .	192
CCXII.	"The Complaynt of Gilbert Smyth of Swythland mynister against Christopher Monke." July 26, 1620	193
CCXIII.	Petition of Christopher Moncke to the King. July, 1620 . .	194
CCXIV.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1619-20	194
CCXV.	Letter of Sir Wm. Hericke on the Bohemian question. June, 1621	195
CCXVI.	Remembrances for Justices to "conferr with the Maior of the Towne of Leicester"	196
CCXVII.	Meeting of the Mayor and the Twenty-four. 1621-2? . . .	197
CCXVIII.	Letter concerning a destitute child. May 19, 1622	197

	PAGE
CCXIX.	198
CCXX.	199
CCXXI.	199
CCXXII.	200
CCXXIII.	201
CCXXIV.	201
CCXXV.	203
CCXXVI.	203
CCXXVII.	203
CCXXVIII.	204
CCXXIX.	204
CCXXX.	204
CCXXXI.	205
CCXXXII.	206
CCXXXIII.	206
CCXXXIV.	206
CCXXXV.	206
CCXXXVI.	207
CCXXXVII.	207
CCXXXVIII.	208
CCXXXIX.	208
CCXL.	208
CCXLII.	209
CCXLIII.	209
CCXLIV.	210
CCXLV.	210
CCXLVI.	210
CCXLVII.	211
CCXLVIII.	211
CCXLIX.	211
CCL.	212
CCLI.	212
CCLI.	212
CCLII.	213
CCLIII.	213
CCLIV.	213
CCLV.	214
CCLVI.	215
CCLVII.	215
CCLVIII.	215
CCLIX.	217
CCLX.	218
CCLXI.	220
CCLXII.	220
CCLXIII.	221
CCLXIV.	221
CCLXV.	222
Meeting of Common Hall. May 24, 1622	198
Abstract of License in Mortmain of James I. 1622	199
Meeting of the Mayor and Justices. Oct. 18, 1622	199
Bishop of Lincoln's orders in restraint of trade. Oct. 19, 1622	200
Common Hall. Feb. 13, 1622/3	201
Disputes concerning land in Southfield. 1622?	201
Chamberlains' Accounts. 1621-22	203
Examination before Magistrates. March 31, 1623	203
Meeting of Mayor etc. to arrange public fast. July 15, 1623	203
Common Hall. Sep. 16, 1623	204
Common Hall. Sep. 21, 1623	204
Meeting of Commissioners. Sep. 26, 1623	204
Common Hall. 1622-23?	205
Before the Mayor and Justices. Sep. 18, 1623	206
Examination before Magistrates. Nov. 14, 1623	206
Apprentice admitted to Company of Weavers. Nov. 22, 1623	206
Information laid before the Mayor. Dec. 12, 1623	206
Common Hall. Nov. 28, 1623	207
Chamberlains' Accounts. 1622-23	207
Meeting of Commissioners. May 28, 1624	208
Letter concerning the lease of Gainsborough. June 3, 1624	208
Resolutions of Common Hall. June 5, 1624	208
Petition of Commoners concerning the Cow Pasture	209
Meeting of Commissioners. July 1624	209
Letter about the King's buck hounds. Aug. 1, 1624	210
Meeting of Commissioners. Aug. 6, 1624	210
Examination before Magistrates. Aug. 17, 1624	210
Meeting of Commissioners. Aug. 20, 1624	211
Resolutions of Common Hall. Sep. 3, 1624	211
Meeting of the Mayor and Aldermen. Oct. 23, 1624	211
The Beadle of Beggers. Nov. 27, 1624	211
Examination before Magistrates. Dec. 3, 1624	212
Letter to Bishop of Lincoln about Tamworth's gift. Jan. 29, 1624/5	212
Meeting of Commissioners. Feb. 7, 1624/5	213
Pass for a Leper. Feb. 26, 1624/5	213
Meeting of Commissioners. 1624	213
"Orders agreed upon to be observed by and betweene the farmers of the Granges and the freemen of the Towne"	214
Petition of John Gibb	215
"Remembrances for Mr Recorder touching his accustomed favour about the renewing of my lease of the Gosling Close"	215
Chamberlains' Accounts. 1623-24	217
Proclamation of Charles I. March 30, 1625	218
Meeting of Commissioners. April 1, 1625	220
Letter from Sir Thomas Hasilrige. April 19, 1625	220
Letter from Lord Huntingdon to the Mayor. May 12, 1625	221
Meeting of Commissioners. June 9, 1625	221
Case before the Mayor and Justices. July 1625	221
Meeting of the Mayor and others. July 11, 1625	222

Table of Contents

xiii

	PAGE	
CCLXVI.	Letter from George Tompson. July 14, 1625	222
CCLXVII.	Extracts from a long statement concerning the soldiers	222
CCLXVIII.	Meeting of the Mayor and others. Aug. 1, 1625	224
CCLXIX.	Minutes of Common Hall. Aug. 19, 1625	224
CCLXX.	Meeting of Mayor etc. 1625	224
CCLXXI.	Order from Bishop of Lincoln with regard to the Subsidy. Aug. 31, 1625	225
CCLXXII.	Meeting of Commissioners. Sep. 20, 1625	225
CCLXXIII.	Remembrance for Mr Wadland. 1625	226
CCLXXIV.	Meeting of Commissioners. 1625	226
CCLXXV.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1624-25	226
CCLXXVI.	Letter from Sir Wm. Heyricke to Sir H. May. July 12, 1626	227
CCLXXVII.	Letter to Sir H. May concerning the amalgamation of stipends. Oct. 31, 1626	228
CCLXXVIII.	Petition of Ministers and Schoolmasters for Mr Angell as Preacher. Jan. 2, 1626/7	229
CCLXXIX.	Letter from Sir Wm. Heyricke to Mayor concerning the appointment of a Preacher. Jan. 2, 1626/7	229
CCLXXX.	Petition to the Mayor. March 1628	230
CCLXXXI.	Anthony Cade's letter to the Mayor about Mr Angell's salary. April 2, 1629	231
CCLXXXII.	Meeting of Commissioners. April 20, 1626	231
CCLXXXIII.	Examination of supposed recusant. May 12, 1626	232
CCLXXXIV.	Letter to Justices of Assize. July 16, 1626	232
CCLXXXV.	Assessment for Military purposes	232
CCLXXXVI.	Common Hall. Sep. 15, 1626	233
CCLXXXVII.	Order for levy of forced loan. Jan. 6, 1626/7	233
CCLXXXVIII.	Common Hall. 1626	234
CCLXXXIX.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1625-26	234
CCXC.	Common Hall. April 25, 1627	235
CCXCI.	Meeting of Commissioners. April 26, 1627	236
CCXCII.	Minutes of Common Hall. May 11, 1627	236
CCXCIII.	Minutes of Common Hall. July 27, 1627	237
CCXCIV.	Meeting of Commissioners. Sep. 19, 1627	237
CCXCV.	Order from Privy Council. Nov. 30, 1627	237
CCXCVI.	Minutes of Common Hall. 1627	238
CCXCVII.	Petition to Mayor, Justices etc.	238
CCXCVIII.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1626-27	239
CCXCIX.	Enclosure of Forest	239
CCC.	Grievances expected from enclosure of Forest	241
CCCI.	Letter of Robert Inge about the enclosure. Nov. 13, 1626	242
CCCII.	Letter concerning the enclosure. Dec. 15, 1627	242
CCCIII.	Papers relating to the enclosure of the forest. 1628-9	242
CCCIV.	Common Hall. May 5, 1628	244
CCCV.	Common Hall. May 15, 1628	244
CCCVI.	Meeting of Mayor and his Brethren. Aug. 17, 1628	244
CCCVII.	Petition of Wm. Twidgeon and John Whatton to the Earl of Montgomery, Lord Chamberlain. Nov. 21, 1628	244
CCCVIII.	Common Hall	246
CCCIX.	Common Hall	246

	PAGE
CCCX.	246
CCCXI.	247
CCCXII.	249
CCCXIII.	249
CCCXIV.	249
CCCXV.	250
CCCXVI.	250
	"A meetinge of M ^r Maior and the ancientest of the Aldermen" etc. Oct. 30, 1629
CCCXVII.	250
CCCXVIII.	250
CCCXIX.	250
	Proclamation of Bishop concerning weekly services at St Martin's. Feb. 20, 1629/30
CCCXX.	251
CCCXXI.	252
CCCXXII.	253
CCCXXIII.	253
CCCXXIV.	254
	"To the right worshipful the Mayor and his Company of the Towne of Leicester." Oct. 30, 1630
CCCXXV.	254
	Letter from Earl of Huntingdon, W. Dixe, and J. Skeffington. Nov. 5, 1630
CCCXXVI.	255
	Letter from Earl of Huntingdon, Dixe and Skeffington. Nov. 13, 1630
CCCXXVII.	256
CCCXXVIII.	256
CCCXXIX.	257
CCCXXX.	257
CCCXXXI.	257
CCCXXXII.	258
CCCXXXIII.	259
CCCXXXIV.	260
	The question of the relation of the Bishop's fee to county and borough. 1631
CCCXXXV.	261
CCCXXXVI.	261
CCCXXXVII.	262
CCCXXXVIII.	262
CCCXXXIX.	263
	Letter from Mr Bonnet, Minister of St Mary's. Aug. 30, 1631
CCCXL.	263
CCCXLI.	264
CCCXLII.	264
	Judgment in dispute concerning the Bishop's Fee. May 4, 1632
CCCXLIII.	265
CCCXLIV.	267
CCCXLV.	267
CCCXLVI.	267
CCCXLVII.	268
	Extract from Letter sent to Thomas, Lord Coventry. Aug. 6, 1632
CCCXLVIII.	269
CCCXLIX.	269
CCCL.	270
	Resolution of Commissioners. June 20, 1633

Table of Contents

xv

	PAGE	
CCCLI.	Resolutions of the Twenty-four. Aug. 9, 1633	270
CCCLII.	Letter from Bishop of Lincoln. Sep. 18, 1633	270
CCCLIII.	"To the most reverend father in God the now Lord Arch-bishop of Canterbury's Grace." 1633-4	271
CCCLIV.	Resolution of Common Hall	272
CCCLV.	Fines inflicted on those who refuse to serve as Chamber-lains, etc.	272
CCCLVI.	Common Hall resolutions	272
CCCLVII.	Extracts from Letter to Chancellor of Duchy	273
CCCLVIII.	Resolutions of some meeting	273
CCCLIX.	Petition to Mayor, Justices, etc.	273
CCCLX.	Preparations for royal visit	274
CCCLXI.	Petition "of the poore freemen of this Borough of Leicester"	275
CCCLXII.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1632-33	275
CCCLXIII.	Resolutions of some meeting. July 16, 1634	276
CCCLXIV.	Resolutions of Common Hall. July 25, 1634	277
CCCLXV.	Letter from George Wadland about the Stewardship. Dec. 19, 1634	277
CCCLXVI.	The Beadle's wages. Dec. 20, 1634	278
CCCLXVII.	Letter to Mr Robert Wright, Bailiff. Feb. 22, 1634/5	278
CCCLXVIII.	Letter to Lord Huntingdon about the Stewardship	278
CCCLXIX.	Meeting of Mayor and Brethren. 1634-5	279
CCCLXX.	Letter to Sir Miles Fleetwood. Jan. 10, 1634/5	279
CCCLXXI.	Resolutions of some meeting	279
CCCLXXII.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1633-34	280
CCCLXXIII.	Letter from Privy Council with regard to Ship Money. Aug. 12, 1635	281
CCCLXXIV.	Letter concerning the levy of Ship Money	283
CCCLXXV.	Meeting of Mayor and Commissioners. Feb. 28, 1635/6	283
CCCLXXVI.	Extracts from Letter to Mr Norrice. 1635	284
CCCLXXVII.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1634-35	284
CCCLXXVIII.	Petition of John Birch and Ann, his wife. April 20, 1636	285
CCCLXXIX.	Common Hall. May 1, 1636	285
CCCLXXX.	Money for Library. May 6, 1636	285
CCCLXXXI.	"My Lord of Stanfords expressions of his intencions touchinge the Comon Brewers in Leicester." 1636	286
CCCLXXXII.	Protest against grant of monopoly to Lord Stanford	286
CCCLXXXIII.	Meeting of Mayor and Brethren. May 13, 1636	287
CCCLXXXIV.	Mayor and Commissioners. June, 1636	287
CCCLXXXV.	Visit of Palgrave of the Rhine. Aug. 12, 1636	287
CCCLXXXVI.	Regulations concerning Watch and Ward. Aug. 30, 1636	288
CCCLXXXVII.	Extract from Petition. Sep. 21, 1636	288
CCCLXXXVIII.	The Plague. Dec. 24, 1636	288
CCCLXXXIX.	Extract from Charity money accounts. Dec. 1636	288
CCCXC.	Mayor and Brethren. Jan. 12, 1636/7	289
CCCXI.	Mr Norrice's gift to the poor. March 13, 1636/7	289
CCCXCII.	Extract from Petition	290
CCCXCIII.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1635-36	290
CCCXCIV.	Distress taken for Ship Money. March 25, 1638	292
CCCXCV.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1636-37	292

	PAGE	
CCCXCVI.	Meeting of Commissioners, June 4, 1638	294
CCCXCVII.	Common Hall, July 20, 1638	294
CCCXCVIII.	Details of contract for some work. Jan. 21, 1638/9	294
CCCXCIX.	Subscriptions for Preacher's salary	295
CCCC.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1637-38	296
CCCCI.	Meeting of the Twenty-four. 1639	297
CCCCII.	Extract from Letter from Privy Council concerning Ship Money. Dec. 1639	297
CCCCIII.	Meeting of the Twenty-four. Feb. 1639/40	297
CCCCIV.	Meeting of the Twenty-four. June 14, 1639	298
CCCCV.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1638-39	298
CCCCVI.	Letter from Roger Smith. March 27, 1640	299
CCCCVII.	Extract from Letter of Thomas Chapman, Recorder. May 6, 1640	299
CCCCVIII.	Letter from Lord Huntingdon. Aug. 31, 1640	299
CCCCIX.	Muster of men for Bishop's War. Sep. 3, 1640	300
CCCCX.	Royal Commission of Array. Sep. 28, 1640	300
CCCCXI.	Letter to Lord Huntingdon concerning a demand for fifty pounds. Nov. 28, 1640	301
CCCCXII.	Meeting of the Commissioners. Dec. 18, 1640	302
CCCCXIII.	Meeting of Twenty-four. Jan. 22, 1640/41	302
CCCCXIV.	Sketch of "Arthur Halls plot"	302
CCCCXV.	Letter concerning Parliamentary franchise. March 9, 1640/1	303
CCCCXVI.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1639-40	303
CCCCXVII.	Dispute concerning the Bishop's Fee	305
CCCCXVIII.	Dispute concerning the Bishop's Fee	305
CCCCXIX.	Protestation of House of Commons. May 13, 1641	307
CCCCXX.	Meeting of the Twenty-four and Forty-eight	308
CCCCXXI.	Appointment of new Bailiff. Oct. 25, 1641	308
CCCCXXII.	Request of John Beeby, Bailiff	308
CCCCXXIII.	Meeting of the Twenty-four. Jan. 21, 1641/2	309
CCCCXXIV.	Section of Mr Ives' Will	309
CCCCXXV.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1640-41	310
CCCCXXVI.	Meeting of Commissioners. April 1, 1642	312
CCCCXXVII.	Meeting of the Twenty-four. June 6, 1642	312
CCCCXXVIII.	Lord Stanford's Warrant for Muster of Trained Band. May 5, 1642	312
CCCCXXIX.	Appointment of Special Watch and Ward. July 2, 1642	313
CCCCXXX.	Royal Order concerning the collection and transport of munitions of war. Aug. 5, 1642	313
CCCCXXXI.	Meeting of the Twenty-four. Aug. 18, 1642	314
CCCCXXXII.	Meeting of the Twenty-four. Aug. 21, 1642	314
CCCCXXXIII.	Letter to the King. Aug. 21, 1642	314
CCCCXXXIV.	Petition to the King	315
CCCCXXXV.	Record of several visits of the King and Prince Charles. 1642	316
CCCCXXXVI.	Appointment of Special Watch. Aug. 25, 1642	317
CCCCXXXVII.	Letter from Prince Rupert to the Mayor. Sep. 6, 1642	317
CCCCXXXVIII.	A forced levy of £500. Sep. 7, 1642	318

	PAGE	
CCCCXXXIX.	Letter from Charles I. Sep. 8, 1642	319
CCCCXL.	Receipt from Prince Rupert. Sep. 9, 1642	319
CCCCXLI.	Arrangements for assessing and collecting the forced levy. Sep. 20, 1642	320
CCCCXLII.	Letter to Henry Hastings, High Sheriff of the County of Leicester. Jan. 10, 1642/3	320
CCCCXLIII.	Common Hall. Jan. 14, 1642/3	321
CCCCXLIV.	Common Hall. March 4, 1642/3	322
CCCCXLV.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1641-42	322
CCCCXLVI.	Common Hall. May 2, 1643	325
CCCCXLVII.	Meeting of the Twenty-four. Sep. 14, 1643	325
CCCCXLVIII.	Allocation of John Parker's charity. 1643	325
CCCCXLIX.	Meeting of the Twenty-four. July 25, 1643	327
CCCCL.	Meeting of the Twenty-four. Feb. 16, 1643/4	327
CCCCLI.	Petition of Thomas Weldon, Macebearer	327
CCCCLII.	Common Hall. 1642	328
CCCCLIII.	Meeting of the Twenty-four	328
CCCCLIV.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1642-43	328
CCCCLV.	Letter from the "Committee for the Two Kingdoms." March 15, 1644/5	330
CCCCLVI.	Common Hall. Aug. 22, 1644	331
CCCCLVII.	Common Hall. Sep. 14, 1644	331
CCCCLVIII.	Meeting of the Twenty-four. Nov. 9, 1644	331
CCCCLIX.	Letter from Grey of Wark and Wm. Lenthal. Dec. 17, 1644	332
CCCCLX.	Meeting of the Twenty-four. Dec. 21, 1644	333
CCCCLXI.	Meeting of the Twenty-four	333
CCCCLXII.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1643-44	333
CCCCLXIII.	Meeting of the Mayor and Aldermen. March 29, 1645	335
CCCCLXIV.	Meeting of Commissioners. April 10, 1645	335
CCCCLXV.	Common Hall. April 19, 1645	335
CCCCLXVI.	Order concerning defence of the Town. April 19, 1645	336
CCCCLXVII.	Letter concerning the assessment for the army in Ireland. April 29, 1645	336
CCCCLXVIII.	Letter from George Digbye. June 1, 1645	337
CCCCLXIX.	Common Hall. Nov. 11, 1645	337
CCCCLXX.	Meeting of the Twenty-four. Nov. 12, 1645	338
CCCCLXXI.	Parliamentary election. Nov. 17, 1645	338
CCCCLXXII.	Common Hall. 1645-6	339
CCCCLXXIII.	Petition to the House of Commons	339
CCCCLXXIV.	Parish Stipends	340
CCCCLXXV.	Petition of an ex-soldier to the Mayor, etc.	340
CCCCLXXVI.	Petition to the Mayor, etc.	341
CCCCLXXVII.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1644-45	342
CCCCLXXVIII.	Meeting of the Twenty-four. Aug. 25, 1646	344
CCCCLXXIX.	Common Hall. Sep. 11, 1646	344
CCCCLXXX.	Resistance to payment of tithe. Oct. 24, 1646	345
CCCCLXXXI.	Letters relating to the Ministers' stipends. 1646	345
CCCCLXXXII.	Letter to the Reverend Lazarus Seaman. Dec. 12, 1646	346
CCCCLXXXIII.	Meeting of the Justices. Dec. 31, 1646	347
CCCCLXXXIV.	Man accused of treasonable speech. Feb. 6, 1646/7	347

		PAGE
CCCCLXXXV.	Order to prepare lodgings for the King. Feb. 12, 1646/7	348
CCCCLXXXVI.	Common Hall. Dec. 17, 1646	348
CCCCLXXXVII.	Common Hall. Jan. 11, 1646/7	348
CCCCLXXXVIII.	Common Hall. Feb. 1646/7	349
CCCCLXXXIX.	Petition to House of Commons	349
CCCCXC.	Petition of the Company of Cordwainers	350
CCCCXCI.	Petition of two Cordwainers to Common Hall	350
CCCCXCII.	Petition of Edward Palmer	352
CCCCXCIII.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1645-46	352
CCCCXCIV.	Petition concerning enclosure of land at Bushby. March 26, 1647	354
CCCCXCV.	Meeting of the Commissioners. March 1, 1646/7	354
CCCCXCVI.	Resolution restricting competition. July 5, 1647	355
CCCCXCVII.	Common Hall. July 12, 1647	355
CCCCXCVIII.	Meeting of Auditors. Sep. 1, 1647	355
CCCCXCIX.	Assessors for tax for the Army and Ireland. Sep. 13, 1647	356
D.	Meeting of the Twenty-four. Sep. 24, 1647	356
DI.	Orders and rules for the Grammar School. Nov. 22, 1647	357
DII.	Meeting of the Commissioners. Nov. 26, 1647	358
DIII.	Company of Tailors authorise the work of a "botcher." Dec. 9, 1647	358
DIV.	Meeting of the Twenty-four. Jan. 7, 1647/8	358
DV.	Meeting of the Twenty-four. Jan. 28, 1647/8	359
DVI.	Mr Herick's gift of £5 spent on bread for the poor. Feb. 3, 1647/8	359
DVII.	Relief for those who have billeted soldiers. Feb. 11, 1647/8	359
DVIII.	Common Hall. Feb. 25, 1647/8	360
DIX.	Meeting of the Commissioners. March 14?, 1647/8	360
DX.	Meeting of Assessors of tax for the Army in Ireland. March 16, 1647/8	360
DXI.	Meeting of the Twenty-four. 1647/8	361
DXII.	Petition of Richard Shawe, trunkmaker	361
DXIII.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1646-47	361
DXIV.	Subscriptions for addition to Schoolmaster's salary. March 27, 1648	364
DXV.	The "passing of the Seale." March 30, 1648	365
DXVI.	Common Hall. Feb. 25, 1647/8	365
DXVII.	Meeting of the Commissioners. April 7, 1648	365
DXVIII.	Common Hall. April 28, 1648	365
DXIX.	Meeting of the Commissioners. April 28, 1648	366
DXX.	Order of Constables concerning "delinquents." June 5, 1648	366
DXXI.	Meeting of the Commissioners. June 9, 1648	366
DXXII.	Letter to Mayor of Lincoln. July 1, 1648	367
DXXIII.	Order relating to the cleansing of streets. Nov. 1648	367
DXXIV.	Soldiers quartered in Leicester. Nov. 6, 1648	367
DXXV.	Extract from a letter to Mr Richard Inge, Knighton. Nov. 21, 1648	368

	PAGE	
DXXVI.	Memorandum concerning Mr Inge. Nov. 1648	369
DXXVII.	Examination before the Justices. Dec. 29, 1648	369
DXXVIII.	Fear of an Enclosure riot. Feb. 19, 1648/9	370
DXXIX.	Meeting of the Commissioners. 1648	370
DXXX.	Common Hall	370
DXXI.	Petition of Captain Atkinson	371
DXXII.	Petition of "Thomas Cutler and Margarett his wife"	372
DXXIII.	Common Hall. 1648	372
DXXIV.	Petition of Glovers and Fellmongers of Mountsorrel	373
DXXV.	Petition of Poor of Mountsorrel	373
DXXVI.	Dispute concerning tithe in the Southfield	374
DXXVII.	Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen. 1648	375
DXXVIII.	Meeting of Mayor and Justices. 1648	375
DXXIX.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1647-48	375
DXL.	The Army and Crown Lands. 1649-50	379
DXLI.	Meeting of the Mayor and Commissioners. June 1, 1649	379
DXLII.	Letter from Anthony Pearson to Captain Hubbert. March 16, 1649/50	379
DXLIII.	Reply to Mr Pearson. March 18, 1649	380
DXLIV.	Petition to the Parliament of England	380
DXLV.	Meeting of the Mayor and Commissioners. April 14, 1650	381
DXLVI.	Order of Mayor and Justices. April 2, 1649	381
DXLVII.	Meeting of Mayor and Justices. April, 1649	381
DXLVIII.	Meeting of Mayor and Justices. April 29, 1649	382
DXLIX.	Order from the Committee for the County of Leicester. May 3, 1649	382
DL.	Examination before the Mayor and Justices. May 9, 1649	383
DLI.	Order from Parliament concerning the Mace. June 6, 1649	383
DLII.	Common Hall	384
DLIII.	Meeting of the Mayor and Justices. Aug. 10, 1649	385
DLIV.	Imprisonment for heresy. Oct. 31, 1649	385
DLV.	Meeting of the Mayor and Commissioners. Jan. 30, 1649/50	386
DLVI.	Letter about a heretical book. Feb. 18, 1649/50	386
DLVII.	Soldiers exact money from taxpayers. March 11, 1649/50	387
DLVIII.	Petition of Company of Cordwayners	388
DLIX.	The Mastership of Wigston's Hospital	389
DLX.	Extract of letter from Wm. Garret	390
DLXI.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1648-49	390
DLXII.	Examination before the Mayor and Justices. May 14, 1650	394
DLXIII.	Expenses of the new mace. Aug. 5, 1650	394
DLXIV.	Mayor's oath at the Castle. Nov. 1, 1650	394
DLXV.	Order from Parliament. Dec. 23, 1650	394
DLXVI.	Letters from Mr Wood the new Schoolmaster. 1650/51	395
DLXVII.	Letter to the Mayor and Aldermen. Feb. 11, 1650/51	396
DLXVIII.	Remembrances for Common Hall. March 1, 1650/51	396
DLXIX.	"Reasons against depopulacion and decaye of tillage"	396
DLXX.	Meeting of the Twenty-four. 1650/51	396
DLXXI.	Extract from a letter from Mr Maior (solicitor)	397
DLXXII.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1649-50	397
DLXXIII.	Remembrances for Common Hall. 1651	399

	PAGE
DLXXIV.	Order to Constable. Nov. 10, 1651 399
DLXXV.	"Decrees for ye free school" etc. Nov. 14, 1651 399
DLXXVI.	"Remembrances for Chamberlin Sherwyn." Nov. 18, 1651 400
DLXXVII.	Letter to the Lord President [of the Council?]. Nov. 1651 400
DLXXVIII.	Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen. Dec. 25, 1651 401
DLXXIX.	Meeting of Mayor and the Twenty-four. Feb. 1651/2 401
DLXXX.	Voting at Common Hall. Feb. 9, 1651/2 401
DLXXXI.	Meeting of Mayor and "divers Aldermen." Feb. 9, 1651/2 402
DLXXXII.	Monthly meeting of Mayor and Justices. 1651 402
DLXXXIII.	Letter from the Inhabitants of the Newark. Feb. 20, 1651/2 403
DLXXXIV.	Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen. 1651/2 404
DLXXXV.	Choice of Lecturer: Letter from Mayor. Feb. 24, 1651/2 404
DLXXXVI.	Extract of letter to Committee on Universities 404
DLXXXVII.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1650-51 404
DLXXXVIII.	Meeting of Mayor "and divers Aldermen." June 22, 1652 408
DLXXXIX.	Examination before Justices. July 13, 1652 408
DXC.	Meeting of Mayor and Commissioners. Sep. 1652 408
DXCI.	Meeting of Mayor and Justices. Nov. 25, 1652 409
DXCII.	Letter to Sir Wm. Heyrick from the Mayor etc. Jan. 18, 1652/3 409
DXCIII.	Petition of Edward Palmer 410
DXCIV.	Common Hall. Jan. 4, 1649/50 411
DXCV.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1651-52 411
DXCVI.	Trustees of Trinity Hospital. May 18, 1653 413
DXCVII.	Letter from Francis Martin to the Mayor. July 24, 1653 413
DXCVIII.	Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen. Aug. 1, 1653 414
DXCIX.	Meeting of Mayor and Justices. Oct. 11, 1653 414
DC.	Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen. Oct. 13, 1653 414
DCI.	Meeting of Mayor and Justices. Oct. 19, 1653 415
DCII.	Letter to John Pratt, M.P. Nov. 22, 1653 415
DCIII.	Letter from Major Pratt concerning Mr Lee and the Hospital. Nov. 26, 1653 416
DCIV.	Meeting of Mayor and Justices. Feb. 17, 1653/4 416
DCV.	Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen. 1653 416
DCVI.	Petition of "Cordwaynors" 416
DCVII.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1652-53 417
DCVIII.	Grievances of Wigston Hospital 418
DCIX.	Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen. May 5, 1654 419
DCX.	Election of Burgesses. July 12, 1654 419
DCXI.	Quaker Prisoner's Letter. Jan. 26, 1654/5 421
DCXII.	Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen. Jan. 10, 1654/5 422
DCXIII.	Declaration of a freeman. Feb. 24, 1654/5 422
DCXIV.	Petition of Bartholomew Moore 423
DCXV.	Protest of Quaker 423
DCXVI.	Petition of Poor of Trinity Hospital 424
DCXVII.	Trade Regulation 424
DCXVIII.	Petition of Soldier for freedom 424
DCXIX.	Petition of John Turlington, Sergeant 425
DCXX.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1653-54 425
DCXXI.	Calendar of Prisoners. March 26, 1655 426

	PAGE
DCXXII. Letter from Mr Lee. June 2, 1655	426
DCXXIII. Meeting of Mayor and Justices. Oct. 12, 1655	427
DCXXIV. Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen. Nov. 5, 1655	427
DCXXV. Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen. Feb. 1, 1655/6	428
DCXXVI. Letter to Rev. Mr Moore of Shearsby	428
DCXXVII. Petition to Parliament against Enclosure of land	428
DCXXVIII. Common Hall. Feb. 22, 1655/6	430
DCXXIX. New Waterworks proposed. Feb. 26, 1655/6	430
DCXXX. Petition of Poor of Trinity Hospital to the Justices of the County. [1652-5]	430
DCXXXI. Petition of Hugh Dawes, Sergeant at Mace	431
DCXXXII. Chamberlains' Accounts. 1654-55	431
DCXXXIII. Mr Haynes' Scholarship money. April 18, 1656	432
DCXXXIV. Civil marriage. May 29, 1656	433
DCXXXV. Distribution of bread to the poor. June 23, 1656	433
DCXXXVI. Letter from Wm. Stanley, M.P. Sep. 23, 1656	433
DCXXXVII. Letter from Wm. Stanley, M.P. Nov. 6, 1656	434
DCXXXVIII. Letter from Thomas Moore of Gainsborough. Nov. 17, 1656	434
DCXXXIX. Letter from Wm. Stanley, M.P. Dec. 13, 1656	435
DCXL. Meeting of Mayor and Justices. Jan. 2, 1656/7	436
DCXLI. Letter to Wm. Stanley, M.P. Jan. 12, 1656/7	436
DCXLII. Letter from Wm. Stanley about Gosling Close. Feb. 4, 1656/7	437
DCXLIII. Letter of Wm. Stanley and others about Mr Barton. Feb. 6, 1656/7	437
DCXLIV. Common Hall. Feb. 18, 1656/7	438
DCXLV. Petition of Sergeants at Mace	438
DCXLVI. Question to Recorder concerning a dispute with the County Justices. 1656	439
DCXLVII. Meeting of Mayor and Commissioners. Feb. 30, 1656/7	439
DCXLVIII. Chamberlains' Accounts. 1655-56	439
DCXLIX. Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen. April 8, 1657	441
DCL. Exemption from toll	441
DCLI. Proclamation of Oliver Cromwell as Lord Protector. July 15, 1657	441
DCLII. Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen. Aug. 3, 1657	442
DCLIII. Petition of Robert Sheepardson	442
DCLIV. Common Hall	443
DCLV. Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen. Oct. 16, 1657	443
DCLVI. Order to the Churchwardens of St Martin's. Oct. 6, 1657	444
DCLVII. Remonstrance and Petition to the Trustees of Wigston Hospital	444
DCLVIII. Statement of the case of the Trustees of Wigston Hospital	445
DCLIX. Wigston Hospital Accounts	446
DCLX. Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen. April 28, 1658	447
DCLXI. Demand for accounts of fines and profits of the Court. May 27, 1658	447
DCLXII. Declaration of Trader of Mountsorrel. July 20, 1658	448
DCLXIII. An address voted to Richard Cromwell. Oct. 8, 1658	448
DCLXIV. Common Hall. Oct. 29, 1658	448
DCLXV. Letter from James Winstanley, Recorder. Oct. 31, 1658	449

	PAGE	
DCLXVI.	Letter from James Winstanley, Recorder. Nov. 6, 1658	449
DCLXVII.	Address to Richard Cromwell	451
DCLXVIII.	Death of a Mayor in office. Nov. 17, 1658	452
DCLXIX.	Meeting of Mayor and Referees. Dec. 23, 1658	453
DCLXX.	Letter from Wm. Stanley, M.P. Feb. 2, 1658/9	453
DCLXXI.	Court of Aldermen. Feb. 18, 1658/9	454
DCLXXII.	Letter from Wm. Stanley, M.P. March 17, 1658/9	454
DCLXXIII.	Petition of Stocking Makers	455
DCLXXIV.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1657-58	455
DCLXXV.	Common Hall. May 13, 1659	456
DCLXXVI.	Letter to John Major, Solicitor. June 22, 1659	457
DCLXXVII.	Common Hall. July 8, 1659	457
DCLXXVIII.	Security given concerning the issue of farthings. July 8, 1659	457
DCLXXIX.	Meeting of Mayor and Commissioners. Jan. 6, 1659/60	458
DCLXXX.	Letter to General Monck. Jan. 18, 1659/60	458
DCLXXXI.	Letter from General Monck. Jan. 19, 1659/60	459
DCLXXXII.	Letter from Mayor and Aldermen. Feb. 6, 1659/60	459
DCLXXXIII.	Common Hall. Feb. 24, 1659/60	459
DCLXXXIV.	Waifs and Strays at Swannington. April 23, 1659	460
DCLXXXV.	Wigston Hospital. July 5, 1659	460
DCLXXXVI.	Considerations concerning the Office of Aulneager.	461
DCLXXXVII.	Rent of Leather Hall	461
DCLXXXVIII.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1658-59	462
DCLXXXIX.	Gift of Coal to the Town. April 19, 1660	462
DCXC.	Letter from Thomas Armstrong, M.P. May 3, 1660	463
DCXCI.	Letter from John Gray, M.P. May 10, 1660	463
DCXCII.	Proclamation of Charles II. May 12, 1660	463
DCXCIII.	Letter from the Mayor to John Gray, M.P. May 14, 1660	464
DCXCIV.	Letter from John Gray, M.P. May 17, 1660	465
DCXCV.	Meeting of Mayor and Justices. May 28, 1660	465
DCXCVI.	Letter to the Mayor. June 2, 1660	466
DCXCVII.	Letter from John Gray, M.P. June 1660	466
DCXCVIII.	Letter from Wm. Stanley, M.P. June 22, 1660	466
DCXCIX.	Order from General Monck. July 5, 1660	467
DCC.	Common Hall. Aug. 29, 1660	467
DCCI.	Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen. Oct. 14, 1660	468
DCCII.	The Prebend of St Margaret's. Nov. 13, 1660	468
DCCIII.	Common Hall. Nov. 23, 1660	469
DCCIV.	Letter from Lord Loughborough. Jan. 17, 1660/1	470
DCCV.	Letter to Lord Loughborough. Jan. 21, 1660/1	470
DCCVI.	Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen. Jan. 30, 1660/1	470
DCCVII.	Letter from the Mayor to Lord Loughborough. Feb. 1660	470
DCCVIII.	Petition of the two Sergeants at Mace	471
DCCIX.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1659-60	471
DCCX.	Common Hall. March 27, 1661	473
DCCXI.	Meeting of Mayor and Commissioners. Dec. 4, 1661	474
DCCXII.	Meeting of Mayor and Commissioners. Jan. 24, 1661/2	474
DCCXIII.	Summary of case about a rent claimed from the Corporation for Piscary	474

	PAGE
DCCXIV.	Mercers' and Drapers Case 475
DCCXV.	Petition of Nathaniell Hasselwood, Soldier 477
DCCXVI.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1660-61 478
DCCXVII.	Letter from Wm. Stanley, M.P. Aug. 23, 1662 479
DCCXVIII.	Order from "Commissioners for Regulatinge of Corporations." Sep. 8, 1662 479
DCCXIX.	List of Weights and Measures. Oct. 7, 1662 480
DCCXX.	Petition of Butchers' Company 480
DCCXXI.	Meeting of Mayor and Commissioners. Oct. 10, 1662 481
DCCXXII.	Common Hall. Oct. 12, 1662 481
DCCXXIII.	Letter to Lord Loughborough. Oct. 1662 481
DCCXXIV.	Common Hall. Nov. 21, 1662 481
DCCXXV.	"The humble peticion of the Cordwainers" 482
DCCXXVI.	Letter from Henry Baynbrigg. 1662-3 482
DCCXXVII.	Grant of a year's revenue to the Crown. 1662 482
DCCXXVIII.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1661-62 483
DCCXXIX.	Resolutions at Common Hall. ?1663 484
DCCXXX.	Common Hall. May 26, 1663 484
DCCXXXI.	Common Hall. July 4, 1663 484
DCCXXXII.	Meeting of Mayor and Justices. July 31, 1663 485
DCCXXXIII.	Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen. Sep. 9, 1663 485
DCCXXXIV.	Letter from Privy Council. Oct. 8, 1663 486
DCCXXXV.	Inventory of furniture at Town Hall. Oct. 9, 1663 486
DCCXXXVI.	Letter from Anthony Maior. Nov. 14, 1663 487
DCCXXXVII.	Seizure of Republican Literature 488
DCCXXXVIII.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1662-3 488
DCCXXXIX.	Letter about proposed new Charter. Nov. 16, 1664 490
DCCXL.	A trade dispute. Statement of case to Recorder. Dec. 1, 1664 491
DCCXLI.	Reasons for abating John Turvil's rent of Castle Mills 492
DCCXLII.	Letter to Recorder about new Charter 492
DCCXLIII.	Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen 493
DCCXLIV.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1663-64 493
DCCXLV.	Common Hall. April 14, 1665 495
DCCXLVI.	The information of Henry Jervis. April 22, 1665 495
DCCXLVII.	Calendar of Prisoners. March 8, 1665/6 495
DCCXLVIII.	Meeting of Mayor and Justices. June 30, 1665 496
DCCXLIX.	Meeting of Mayor and Justices. July 7, 1665 496
DCCL.	Meeting of Mayor and Justices. July 28, 1665 496
DCCLI.	Order from Officer of Green Cloth. July 29, 1665 497
DCCLII.	Common Hall. July 31, 1665 497
DCCLIII.	Presents to Duke of York and others. July 31, 1665 497
DCCLIV.	Refusal to renounce the Covenant. Sep. 13, 1665 498
DCCLV.	Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen. Dec. 26, 1665 498
DCCLVI.	Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen. ?1665 498
DCCLVII.	A Constable's report. Sep. 22, 1665 498
DCCLVIII.	Letters patent of Charles II (translated). Jan. 20, 1665 499
DCCLIX.	Petition of Edward Hunt 503
DCCLX.	Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen. 1665 503
DCCLXI.	Extract from a will 504

	PAGE
DCCLXII.	504
DCCLXIII.	505
DCCLXIV.	505
DCCLXV.	508
DCCLXVI.	508
DCCLXVII.	508
DCCLXVIII.	509
DCCLXIX.	509
DCCLXX.	509
DCCLXXI.	510
DCCLXXII.	511
DCCLXXIII.	512
DCCLXXIV.	512
DCCLXXV.	512
DCCLXXVI.	513
DCCLXXVII.	513
DCCLXXVIII.	513
DCCLXXIX.	514
DCCLXXX.	514
DCCLXXXI.	515
DCCLXXXII.	516
DCCLXXXIII.	516
DCCLXXXIV.	516
DCCLXXXV.	517
DCCLXXXVI.	518
DCCLXXXVII.	519
DCCLXXXVIII.	519
DCCLXXXIX.	520
DCCXC.	520
DCCXI.	520
DCCXII.	520
DCCXIII.	521
DCCXIV.	521
DCCXCV.	522
DCCXCVI.	522
DCCXCVII.	522
DCCXCVIII.	523
DCCXCIX.	524
DCCC.	524
DCCCI.	525
DCCCII.	525
DCCCIII.	526
DCCCIV.	526
DCCCV.	530
DCCGVI.	531
DCCCVII.	531
DCCCVIII.	532
DCCCIX.	532
DCCCX.	533
Chamberlains' Accounts. 1664-65	504
Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen. April 6, 1666	505
Petition of Edward Billers etc. to Privy Council	505
Common Hall. Feb. 15, 1666/7	508
Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen. March 15, 1666/7	508
Dispute with Mr Wadland	508
Order about halfpence and farthings. Nov. 16, 1666	509
Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen. 1666	509
Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen. Feb. 8, 1666/7	509
Chamberlains' Accounts. 1665-66	510
Letter from Lord Arlington. April 30, 1667	511
Common Hall. May 27, 1667	512
Common Hall. Nov. 22, 1667	512
Voting at Common Hall. Nov. 22, 1667	512
Meeting of Mayor and Commissioners. Jan. 17, 1667/8	513
Chamberlains' Accounts. 1666-67	513
Common Hall. April 17, 1668	513
Meeting of Mayor and Justices. April, 1668	514
Letter from Privy Council. Sep. 29, 1668	514
Petition of Company of Cordwainers	515
Petition of Edward Lee, Bodymaker	516
Petition of Waites	516
Petition of John Roberts, Gentleman	516
Chamberlains' Accounts. 1667-68	517
Meeting of Mayor and Justices. April 30, 1669	518
Expenses of Richard Barton at Cambridge. May 20, 1669	519
Meeting of the Commissioners. Jan. 28, 1669/70?	519
Letter from Richard Marryott. Dec. 6, 1669	520
Meeting of the Mayor and Brethren	520
Petition of "Severall Apothecaries" etc.	520
Petition of Samuel Browne, Apothecary	521
Chamberlains' Accounts. 1668-69	521
Letter to Sir Thomas Ingram. Sep. 10, 1670	521
Letter from Wm. Hartopp, M.P. Nov. 12, 1670?	522
Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen. Jan. 13, 1670/1	522
A legal point relating to Conventicles. March 23, 1670/1	522
Common Hall. 1670	523
Voting at Common Hall	524
Petition of "Samuel Dawes, Tayler"	524
Chamberlains' Accounts. 1669-70	525
Endowment of a Riding Academy in Leicester. Jan. 31, 1671/2	525
Sale of Town lands. 1670/1	526
Chamberlains' Accounts. 1670-71	530
John Bunyan's license. Oct. 6, 1672	531
Information concerning treasonable talk. Oct. 10, 1672	531
Letter from Sir John Pretyman, M.P. March 8, 1672/3 .	532
Common Hall. 1672	532
Petition of Josiah Bond, Vicar of St Mary's	532
Meeting of Mayor and Commissioners. 1673	533

	PAGE	
DCCCXI.	Letter from Robert Harding, Recorder. June 13, 1673	533
DCCCXII.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1671-72	534
DCCCXIII.	Letter from Sir Wm. Hartopp, M.P. Jan. 10, 1673/4	534
DCCCXIV.	Letter from Sir John Pretyman, M.P. Jan. 25, 1673/4	535
DCCCXV.	Letter from Mr Browne, Solicitor. Feb. 7, 1673/4	536
DCCCXVI.	Letter from Sir Wm. Hartopp. Feb. 13, 1673/4	536
DCCCXVII.	Petition of Stockingmakers	536
DCCCXVIII.	Petition of Anne Angell, Widow	538
DCCCXIX.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1672-73	539
DCCCXX.	An order of the Deputy Lieutenants. 1674	540
DCCCXXI.	Meeting of Mayor and Justices. 1674	540
DCCCXXII.	Orders relating to the Accounts	541
DCCCXXIII.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1673-74	542
DCCCXXIV.	Petition of "divers freemen" etc.	542
DCCCXXV.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1674-75	543
DCCCXXVI.	Petition of John Scampton, Mercer. Aug. 1676	545
DCCCXXVII.	Letter from Robert Harding, Recorder. Jan. 30, 1676/7 .	545
DCCCXXVIII.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1675-76	546
DCCCXXIX.	Letter from Sir John Gray, M.P. April 7, 1677	546
DCCCXXX.	Meeting of the Mayor and Justices. July 30, 1677	547
DCCCXXXI.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1676-77	547
DCCCXXXII.	Common Hall. Oct. 1678	548
DCCCXXXIII.	Common Hall. Oct. 1678	548
DCCCXXXIV.	Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen. Nov. 12, 1678	549
DCCCXXXV.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1677-78	549
DCCCXXXVI.	List of Prisoners upon Bail. March 27, 1679	549
DCCCXXXVII.	A breach of law relating to burial. Oct. 16, 1679	550
DCCCXXXVIII.	Meeting of Mayor and Justices. 1678-9	550
DCCCXXXIX.	Petition of parishioners of St Mary's	550
DCCCXL.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1678-79	551
DCCCXLII.	Letter to the Privy Council. April 23, 1680	552
DCCCXLIII.	Letter from Nathan Wright, Recorder. May 1, 1680	553
DCCCXLIV.	Letter from Marmion Gee. Sep. 16, 1680	553
DCCCXLV.	Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen. Nov. 26, 1680	554
DCCCXLVI.	Common Hall. 1680	554
DCCCXLVII.	Petition to King	554
DCCCXLVIII.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1679-80	555
DCCCXLIX.	Common Hall. May 30, 1681	555
DCCCL.	Meeting of Mayor and the Twenty-four. Aug. 16, 1681	556
DCCCLI.	Common Hall. 1681	556
DCCCLII.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1680-81	557
DCCCLIII.	Questions answered by Mr Holt. Jan. 30, 1682/3	557
DCCCLIV.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1681-82	557
DCCCLV.	Common Hall. May 7, 1683	558
DCCCLVI.	Common Hall. 1683-4	558
DCCCLVII.	Meeting of the Two Companies. 1683-4	558
DCCCLVIII.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1682-83	559
DCCCLIX.	Letter from Lord Huntingdon. Oct. 2, 1684?	559
	"The meeeting of M ^r Maior and several members of both Companies." Oct. 6, 1684	560

	PAGE	
DCCCLX.	Arrangements to surrender the Charter. Oct. 10, 1684	560
DCCCLXI.	Common Hall. Oct. 29, 1684	561
DCCCLXII.	Common Hall. 1684	561
DCCCLXIII.	Letter from Nathan Wright, Recorder. Nov. 4, 1684	561
DCCCLXIV.	Letter from Nathan Wright, Recorder. Dec. 2, 1684	561
DCCCLXV.	Letter from Mr Brown, Solicitor. Dec. 9, 1684	562
DCCCLXVI.	"Persons of both Companies and Officers sworne" etc.	562
DCCCLXVII.	Announcement of Surrender of Charter. 1684	563
DCCCLXVIII.	The names of the Corporation of Leicester. 1684	563
DCCCLXIX.	Charter of Charles II (translation). Dec. 10, 1684	564
DCCCLXX.	Letter from Lord Huntingdon. Feb. 3, 1684/5	579
DCCCLXXI.	Letter from Lalarter. Feb. 14, 1684/5	579
DCCCLXXII.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1683-84	580
DCCCLXXIII.	Letter from Sir Henry Beaumont, M.P.	581
DCCCLXXIV.	Petition to the King from Master and Assistants of the Hospital of Holy Trinity	581
DCCCLXXV.	Common Hall. June 12, 1685	582
DCCCLXXVI.	Meeting of Mayor and Commissioners. June 17, 1685	582
DCCCLXXVII.	Letter from Lord Huntingdon. June 25, 1685	582
DCCCLXXVIII.	Order for Assessment. July 8, 1685	583
DCCCLXXIX.	Common Hall. 1685	583
DCCCLXXX.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1684-85	584
DCCCLXXXI.	Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen. July 8, 1686	585
DCCCLXXXII.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1685-86	586
DCCCLXXXIII.	Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen. March, 1687	587
DCCCLXXXIV.	Meeting of Mayor and Commissioners. June 17, 1687	587
DCCCLXXXV.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1686-87	588
DCCCLXXXVI.	Common Hall. May 28, 1688	588
DCCCLXXXVII.	Common Hall. June 27, 1688	588
DCCCLXXXVIII.	Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen. Dec. 4, 1688	589
DCCCLXXXIX.	Common Hall. 1688	589
DCCCXC.	Common Hall. Feb. 19, 1688	590
DCCCXCI.	Common Hall. 1688-9	590
DCCCXCII.	Petition of Thomas Newton, Crier	590
DCCCXCIII.	Petition of Anthony Wagstaffe, Innholder	591
DCCCXCIV.	Petition of Robert Lord	592
DCCCXCV.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1687-88	592
DCCCXCVI.	Chamberlains' Accounts. 1688-89	593
LIST OF MAYORS, CHAMBERLAINS, ETC.	597
INDEX	609

INTRODUCTION

I. *The Charters.*

The opening years of James I's reign were troubled years for the Corporation of Leicester. The Charter granted in 1599 had given the Corporation control over the bailiwick of the town by granting to the 24 Aldermen the right to elect a Recorder, Steward, two Bailiffs, a Town Clerk and Sergeants at mace. It had also extended the powers of the borough in the Bishop's fee, the Newark, and the parishes of St Mary and St Leonard.

Before the death of Elizabeth difficulties had arisen with regard to the town's jurisdiction over the Bishop's fee, and a troublesome law suit was on foot concerning freedom of toll. The Corporation was obliged to seek for the renewal of its Charter, and negotiations began in 1604 for this purpose, at a time when many enemies had been stirred up against it (p. 12).

The Corporation aimed at obtaining not only a better definition of their powers over the Bishop's fee (granted in 41 Elizabeth), but also an addition to them. The clause of the new Charter embodying these aims was as follows: "the grant of the Jurisdiction of Government of all houses, etc., commonly called in Inglishe the Bishopps fee, scituate lieing and beinge within the parishe of St Margarets in or neare the said Borrowe of Leicester in the countie of Leicester, and of his Maiesties subiects inhabiting therein, in as ample manner as in the auntient Burrowe, with the exclusion of foreign Justice, but in their defaultes, except determininge of felonies and countefeytinge, clippinge washinge and other faultes of money."

The negotiations prospered at first. In February 1605/6 the charter had been drawn up, and had almost been made legally effective, when a technical flaw was discovered in it and it was "staied at the great seal" (p. 17). During the delay caused by this accident a variety of "exceptions" were urged against it by many powerful persons, among others the Earl of Huntingdon, Sir Henry Harrington and Sir Francis Hastings, and it was not until 1609 that it was finally granted (pp. 13-8, 19, 33-6).

The opposition centred in two points, (*a*) the borough's jurisdiction in the Bishop's fee and (*b*) the borough's right of appointing the

Steward and other officials for the town. The Mayor and Burgesses wished to have as full powers over that part of the Bishop's fee which lay within the town as they had over the ancient town itself. The district in dispute formed one of ten wards of the borough and was already under the town jurisdiction in certain respects. In order to get full control the borough wanted to cut off the district entirely from the county, and the County Justices opposed the proposed change with vigour. Most of the arguments which were used for and against the project can be ignored. The strongest motive of the opposition was the desire of the county authorities to maintain their rights against the growing power of the borough, and this was coupled with the natural feeling of men in power that the new class then coming to the front, the tradesmen in the towns, were unfitted by education and experience for the responsibilities of government. This point of view is shown very clearly in Lord Huntingdon's "exceptions." He not only says that tradesmen are not likely to judge matters impartially in cases where their own business is concerned, but adds that they cannot be trusted to make a true return to the Crown of the profits derived from the Courts (p. 14).

The feeling on the side of the townsmen was equally clear. They wanted to gain control over the Bishop's fee partly in the interests of good government and partly because it would free the town from the remnants of old manorial jurisdictions (pp. 13, 16, 17, 44-5).

The forces arrayed against the town were very powerful (pp. 33-6), and the borough was obliged to be content, so far as the Bishop's fee was concerned, with the powers granted by Elizabeth in 1599. After endless negotiations, however, they came to an agreement with Lord Huntingdon with regard to the Stewardship (pp. 89-92). Lord Huntingdon—apart from his objections to the proposed Charter, as one of the great landowners of the county and one of the principal county authorities—claimed, as high Steward of the Duchy of Lancaster, the right of nominating the Steward of the borough. At the same time Christopher Tamworth claimed to be Steward of the borough by reason of a patent granted to him in 1603. The two claims were quite distinct, but the complications arising from them had to be faced at the same time (pp. 27, 34, 49, 76, 77, 99, 106), and a final settlement of both was made in 1609, when the Charter was passed. It was then agreed that the King should revoke his patent to Tamworth and grant to the Mayor, Bailiffs and Burgesses the right to choose the Steward of the borough, on condition that they should grant to the Earl of Huntingdon and his heirs and successors the right of

nominating to the office alternately with themselves (pp. 83-5 89-92).

The question of the Stewardship was settled by this agreement, but the Bishop's fee remained a bone of contention throughout the Stuart period.

The opposition raised against the Charter of 1605 had suggested to the Crown the necessity of safeguarding the rights of the Duchy of Lancaster. Consequently a general clause safeguarding them was inserted in the Charter of 1609, and it was provided that the Mayor should take his oath to the Duchy at the Castle and not in the town, as had recently been the custom (pp. 85, 95). This practice was continued under the Commonwealth. Besides this addition to the Charter of 1609 Elizabeth, a change was made in the new Charter with regard to the constitution of the authority responsible for the lands and revenues of the Corporation. "The Mayor Aldermen and 24 seniors of the 48 Burgesses of the borough called the 48" were set up as the authority for this purpose (p. 80), in the place of the Mayor and Aldermen, and in this way the importance of the Company of 48 was increased. It will be necessary to consider the work of this body in surveying the history of the town land and revenues. The Corporation's efforts to secure renewal of their Charter and control over the Bishop's fee were renewed in Charles I's reign (p. 250). In 1629 in asking for further control over the Bishop's fee and other outlying parts of the town, the Mayor and Burgesses complained that many unlawful Ale-houses flourished in the fee because the borough had not sufficient authority to deal with them, and that there were no county Justices living there "or anie within 3 and 4 myles." With regard to the Newark, they urged that it "frequently harbored Papists, non-Conformists and Sectaries" (pp. 257-9).

The Countess of Devon opposed the Corporation's demands on the ground that an extension of borough jurisdiction would interfere with her manorial rights, and she "staied the Charter at the Great Seale."

The opposition of the Countess was effective: the negotiations for the Charter were dropped and were never resumed while Charles I was king. Consequently Leicester held no Charter from Charles I, nor was one granted during the time of the Commonwealth and Protectorate. Preliminary negotiations were set on foot after the death of Cromwell, when the Mayor and Burgesses decided to try for a great addition to their powers. They resolved to ask first for the grant of the government of all six parishes, the Newark and the Castle—with the exception of the town lordship of Knighton; secondly, for full

control over the election of the Steward and the Bailiff; thirdly, for the right of all Mayors to continue to act as Justices so long as they were Aldermen; and fourthly, for the fee farm of the Courts and their perquisites (pp. 450, 453).

The Mayor and the Referees, who were appointed to consider these questions, were to decide whether “endeavours shall be used to procure if (the borough) to be made a county or not.”

These negotiations furnish valuable evidence of the aspirations of the Mayor and Burgesses. They came to nothing, however, owing to the collapse of Richard Cromwell’s government.

The Corporation hoped during the early days of Charles II’s reign that the restoration of the monarchy would not prevent them from obtaining most of what they had meant to obtain from the government of the Protectorate. The letter sent by the Mayor and leading Aldermen to the town Solicitor in November 1664 shows that they aimed at securing the grant of the Bishop’s fee in the form in which it had been granted in the abortive Charter of 1605 (p. 490). It is interesting to notice that they dared not ask for quite as much as they had contemplated in 1658, but, on the other hand, they were ready to demand some restrictions upon the encroachments of county and foreign jurisdiction, together with various new privileges which it is not necessary to enumerate.

An undated letter to the Recorder shows that the Justices of the Peace in the county were aware of the wishes of the Corporation and were determined to oppose them. On the advice, therefore, of the Attorney General, the Mayor and Burgesses merely sought for a confirmation of their former rights and privileges as they had held them under their former Charters, and this was granted them (p. 492).

The only points of interest in Charles II’s Charter of 1665 are the clauses which provided that all officials of the Corporation should take the oaths of Supremacy and Obedience, and which forbade the Recorder, Steward, Solicitor or Common Clerk to “intermeddle in such office before they have been ‘approved by us our heirs and successors’.”

The history of the regulation of the Corporation by the Crown and its reincorporation is given below.

II. *The Bishop’s fee and outlying jurisdictions.*

With regard to the Bishop’s fee the Corporation was in much the same position at the end of our period as it was at the beginning. In some respects the situation was worse and not better from the point of view of the town.

The right of the Corporation to assess and levy the subsidies granted by Parliament in the Bishop's fee (meaning that part of it which lay in Gartree Hundred) and in the Newark was never seriously disputed, though the borough had some trouble in maintaining their right on several occasions.

Sir Henry Harrington in 1605 had accused the Corporation of taxing strangers in these districts more heavily than townsmen "for the ease of themselves" (p. 15). The Corporation had replied that the subsidy was as "equally taxed" in "Corporations as in Counties"; in fact they implied that it was more equally taxed in Corporations because there the County Commissioners acted with the Town Commissioners, whereas in the county no outside element was introduced (p. 16). It appears that the assessment was actually heavier in the Bishop's fee, when it was made by the County Justices than when it was made by the town, and this was why the inhabitants supported the borough in their claim to authority when the question of the subsidy was raised. On the other hand, some inhabitants were ready to turn against the borough over the attempt to enforce laws relating to Alehouses.

The conflict between borough and county in the Bishop's fee became serious from time to time. On one occasion a Mayor who had been elected to office refused to serve because he lived in the Bishop's fee, and he "perswaded himselfe that he ought not to serve the said office of Maior in respecte the said Countie Justices Challenge jurisdiction there." He only consented to take office after an appeal had been made to Lord Huntingdon, who had given it as his opinion that the Bishop's fee was within the jurisdiction of Leicester, and that he was entitled to serve as other townsmen did (p. 261).

Two interesting disputes in the Bishop's fee are worth recording. About 1630-31 the Mayor and Burgesses had continuous trouble over their attempt to deal with unlawful Alehouses situated in the Bishop's fee. The Alehouse keepers, relying on the support of the County Justices, resisted the authority of the Corporation and "tumults" arose as a result of which arrests were made. These troubles are described in the Countess of Devon's petition to the Privy Council. She asked the Privy Council to restrain the Corporation from interfering in the Bishop's fee, and said that, although the Mayor and Burgesses had lately failed to secure a Charter giving them the right to interfere, "yet nevertheless without any Charter they have of late frequently violently and tumultuously and riotously entered into ye said mannor of Bishoppes fee, and there exercised

Jurisdiction" (p. 264). The Privy Council referred the petition to a Committee, which issued its decision on May 4, 1632. It was declared that Leicester and the Bishop's fee were separate liberties, and it was ordered that from henceforth the Mayor, Bailiff and Burgesses "shall not at any time hereafter exercise any Jurisdiction within the said Mannor of Bishopps fee or the lymitts thereof nor upon any of the inhabitants" (pp. 265-6).

This decision robbed the borough of rights which it had enjoyed for hundreds of years, but it was not until ten years later that the Corporation petitioned the Privy Council either to reverse its decision, or to allow the matter to be tried in the Law Courts.

There is some indication that strong feelings were aroused in the town by these proceedings. In June, 1632, Thomas Davie was brought before the Magistrates and committed to the Assizes for violent words used against Lord Huntingdon, Lord Stanford and the Countess of Devon. With regard to the latter he was accused of having said "it was longe of the Countess of Devon that eggs were so deare, and further sayd that the said Countess had made a vowe never to come to St Martins Church again, and if others were of his mind she should be kept out if she came therethen" (p. 267).

Apparently in January, 1634, the Companies considered the question of attempting to get the case tried in the Courts, but nothing was done until, on the eve of the Civil War, they presented the petition. By that time the borough had been kept out of its legal rights for about ten years by a mere decision of a committee of the Privy Council (pp. 305-6). If other boroughs suffered in the same manner it is not strange that, when the war broke out, Parliament found its chief support against the Monarchy in the towns.

The second case shows Cromwell's Major General for the Leicester district at work. The Puritan Parliaments had passed a number of laws for the "Reformation of Manners," which were generally ineffective because the ordinary authorities in town and country were unwilling to enforce them. The rule of the Major Generals was expected to remedy this defect, and in 1656 a Major General made the attempt to enforce the law with regard to Alehouses in Leicester and the Bishop's fee. The borough had been having trouble with a certain Robert Sheppardson of the Bishop's fee, and "afterwards the Maior Generall, beinge content that the former proceedings against him might be laid aside, advised and directed the Major and Justices to discharge him anewe from victualinge, and told them that he would take course and order with the County Justices that the said

Sheepardson should bee noe more sete up by them" (p. 439). The intervention of the Major General was effective to some extent, for Sheepardson submitted himself to the borough authorities and petitioned for freedom. His petition was granted. It is impossible to say, however, whether this was what the Major General wanted. He had advised the Mayor to discharge Sheepardson "from viciualinge," but Sheepardson sought freedom of the borough in order that he might "viciual" in greater safety and comfort. Possibly there may have been a difference of opinion between the Town and the Major General on this point (pp. 442-3).

III. The town lands and revenues and their management.

A new authority had been set up by the charter of 1609 to control the town lands and revenues. The Mayor, Aldermen, and twenty-four seniors of the forty-eight, were given power to make bargains and arrangements with regard to lands, tenements, possessions and hereditaments, and it was enacted that in transactions of this character the common seal of the borough could be affixed only with the assent and in the presence of this body or a majority of its members (p. 80). At the end of the sixteenth century the practice had grown up of appointing Commissioners to deal with the land of the town (cf. Vol. III). At first the power to sell land was expressly withheld, but in 1595 Commissioners were appointed to let, set or sell lands, and this practice was followed until the end of Elizabeth's reign.

It may have been felt, when the question of renewing the charter came up in 1603, that it would be well to secure the establishment of a definite authority to deal with town property because, with the acquisition of the lease of the Grange land, such property was becoming of considerable value. There are also signs that the practices of the Commissioners were not meeting with the approval of the two Companies. The change made by the Charter of 1609 seems, however, to have had little practical effect. Commissioners continued to be appointed as they had been before, and the new authority of forty-eight persons never, in fact, controlled the town property. The Commissioners were small bodies of men, who were appointed from time to time by Common Hall, but who never formed part of the recognised machinery of government. This can be seen by reference to the Hall Book 1586-1707, where, in the list of officials given each year, the Commissioners never appear. The ultimate control over town property seems to have been with the Common Hall throughout the seventeenth century and the Commissioners acted, in all important matters, under

its direction (pp. 89, 104–5, 170, 172, 208, 344, 354–5). The authority set up in 1609 was thus practically inoperative. There are, however, two references to it in the records. In 1648, when the Republican Government was set up, there was "a meetinge of the Companie of the xxiiij^{tie} and xxvij^{tie} of the 48^{tie} for the passinge of the seale" (p. 365). Again, in 1667 a Common Hall was held at which members voted as to whether forty-eight persons should be chosen as Commissioners, as was directed by the Charter, or twenty-five, as had been customary, and the voting was in favour of the former (p. 512). The Mayor and Burgesses were obviously feeling nervous and were anxious to regularise their position.

A light is thrown on the general standard of education in the seventeenth century in the resolution passed by the Mayor and Commissioners in 1667 to the effect that a vote should be taken by ticket, and that those that could not write should go to the Town Clerk for help (p. 513).

The borough had acquired the lease of the Newark Grange in the sixteenth century, and the most important accession of property in the Stuart period was the purchase of the fee farms of this estate. It was resolved in 1604 to approach the King on this question, and a petition was drawn up (p. 19). After this the matter seems to have been dropped for a number of years but to have become urgent in 1613. Lord Huntingdon wrote to say that the Grange was for sale and he urged that, for the public good, the Corporation should buy it. If the town "Stocke" was low, it was worth running into debt as afterwards it would be possible to "mitigate your expences and out of your parcimonie to recover it" (pp. 135, 136). The Mayor and Burgesses were eager to buy and Sir William Smythe, who held the fee farm, was willing to sell, but he demanded £1000 for it, "whiche somme," the Corporation declared, "is a great deale more than it is worth and than any man will give for the same." This was the price, however, which was finally paid. Apparently the Granges were not conveyed to the town until 1623 (p. 157).

The Corporation bought land from Lord Spencer in the Southfields about 1624 (p. 211), and in February, 1625, four closes from Mr Freake called the Upper Pingle, the Highfields, the Close before the barn and the Close behind the barn. At various times land was purchased with donations given for charitable purposes, and it was in this way that the town acquired property in some of the villages round Leicester.

The purchase of the Castle Mills from Sir Edward Moseley was an event of some importance (pp. 37, 250, 290, 296). The Mayor

and Burgesses had been involved in troublesome law suits over the question of multure, and the possession of the mills secured them from further trouble, destroying as it did an old seignorial right which had been a burden to the town. After the Civil War the rent for the Castle Mills was reduced on the ground that it was too high "which was first accustomed by the Townes givinge an extraordinary price to Sir Edward Moseley for those Mills, and soe setting the rent of them accordingly."

In February 1610 Lord Huntingdon offered to make over the control of the Newark Hospital to the town at the same rent as Mr Fowkes, the late Master, had paid for it, and the offer was accepted (pp. 93-4).

Immediately after this the question of securing incorporation for the hospital was raised. John Gib, one of the Almsmen, was selected to press the need for incorporation on the Crown. He was a Scotchman, and was therefore likely to attract the notice of James I, but apart from this the Chancellor of the Duchy suggested to the Mayor that he would be "a fitt instrument to solicitte the matter as in the name of the poore to gett by that means passage with lesse charge." Gib was to go to London believing that what the borough was seeking for was incorporation in the name of the Almsmen, whereas in reality what was wanted was incorporation in the name of the Mayor, Bailiff and Burgesses. The Chancellor had advised secrecy and said "it shall not be needfull to lett Gibbes understand the Course which you intendeth for the Charter, but to condescend to anything of his liking, for I have percyved that he is somewhat inclined to another purpose."

The incorporation of the Newark Hospital was granted in 1614 to the Mayor, Bailiffs, Burgesses and Almsmen, and then a dispute arose as to the management of the lands and the right method of safeguarding them. Certain Almsmen, of whom Gib was one, complained of the alienation of hospital property, under Mr Fowkes, and were anxious to have the hospital lands fully described in the new charter to prevent further mischief. Gib and other Almsmen petitioned the Mayor to join with them in asking for "Allinacion or an Inrollment under his Magistis seale," but this was resisted.

The practice of leasing and selling town property to members of the Companies continued. It was agreed that Grange land should only be let to "freemen of the Towne and such as reside within the Towne and Mayntaine a familie and shall keep a Teame upon the same land" (p. 208), and, as a matter of fact, it was the leading men

of the Corporation who held the more valuable leases. The borough was, however, forced to lease land sometimes to persons against their will. This was the case in 1604, when Dr Chippingdale was granted renewal of his lease of Worship's Grange, part of the Grange lands. Dr Chippingdale was a freeman of the town, having been one of the burgesses for Parliament in 1588; but the borough did not want to renew his lease, first, because it had recently been engaged in a dispute with him over the Castle Mills, and, secondly, because they hoped to get a higher rent from a new tenant. The Doctor had, however, strong support. The King wrote in his favour, and there were other powerful influences behind him. In these circumstances Chippingdale evidently hoped to get his lease on very favourable terms. He offered to give £40 rent without payment of a fine, or £20 rent and a fine of £20. The Corporation decided to offer him the lease for £100 fine and £50 rent, and this is what he actually paid (pp. 24, 45).

There is little record of the sale of town lands, except that which took place in the Mayoralty of William Deane, 1670-71 (pp. 526-9). There is a definite accusation of corruption in the rhyme written at the head of an account of this sale, and possibly it was justified. Against this however it may be said that the finances of the Corporation had been thrown into confusion during the Civil Wars, and that the expenses of the Restoration period were heavy. It may have been necessary to raise money, and there may have been no other means of doing it except by the sale of town property.

The agricultural economy of the town remained very much as it had been in the sixteenth century. Although Leicester was the centre of a strong movement towards enclosure, at this period, so far as the town lands were concerned, there does not appear to have been much change. Long before the seventeenth century separate farms of considerable size had grown up within the three open fields of St Margaret, St Mary and the West field. The records show that there was a serious shortage of pasture, and a good deal of trouble between the Commoners and the farmers, with regard to the use made of the common lands.

In 1604, when the leases of the Grange lands fell in, it was resolved that no new leases should be granted until the cow pasture had been enlarged (p. 22). This may have been the origin of a long conflict over the division of Archer's and Wightman's lands, concerning which resolutions were passed at various meetings of the Companies and the Commissioners over a space of two years and more (pp. 36, 42, 50-1, 52, 58, 67). There were difficulties with regard to rights of

Common in the Southfields in 1624, when a petition was presented to the Common Hall by the Commoners (p. 209). Orders were issued regulating the relations between the farmers of the Granges and the freemen of the town, and, among other things, it was decreed that "all such leyes and other greensword ground which hath beene plowed upp within the South feilds at any tyme within xvij yeares last past, shall be layd to grasse again" (p. 214). The Commissioners also resolved to divide the meadow ground with mathematical exactness between the 20 yard lands of the Granges and other property in the Southfields (pp. 209 and 210).

There is another petition from "the poore free men of this Borough of Leicester," which apparently belongs to a later date, in which the freemen complained that they were being deprived of their common, and that the farms "doe eat upp your said petitioners commons by sheepe" (p. 275). This looks, at first sight, like a clear case of enclosure, or the conversion of land farmed on a common system by certain customary methods, to land farmed separately and independently. Judging, however, from a dispute concerning pasture rights in St Margarets field (p. 270) it appears that what may have been in dispute was the freemen's right of common for "horses and mares." In all probability the demands of the Leicester freemen were not in accordance with ancient custom. There would be a definite number of sheep and oxen, etc., allowed to each commoner on the land, and with the growth of town life the freemen were probably claiming the right of common for more horses and mares than ancient custom allowed. The continual difficulty of getting sufficient grass for the post horses was due, apart from accidental causes, to the fact that more horses were needed in the town than in the old agricultural community. The borough attempted to overcome this difficulty in 1648 by setting aside the Cow pasture, of very ancient origin, for the use of horses, and making a new cow pasture in Burgess meadow (p. 370). Trouble between the farmers and the Commoners in the Southfield was still acute in 1673 and the Chamberlains were appointed to see that the farmers acted in accordance with the orders of the Borough (p. 533).

Although there was, apparently, little change in the general management of town lands, the Mayor and Burgesses seem, at times, to have contemplated "enclosing" some of the land under their control. In 1603, a man asked for the lease of a certain yard land, and said that if the Corporation "purpose to enclose" he would like to become tenant for the separate holding (p. 6). There is also a petition asking that money which had been advanced to the borough with a view to

enclosure in the "mayraltie of Mr Robert Gillott" (1600-1) might be returned, as the enclosure had not been carried out (p. 273).

Early in the seventeenth century a good deal of land was being enclosed in Leicestershire and Northamptonshire, and serious rioting occurred in which Leicester men took part. The feeling aroused must have been very strong, and one can see from the orders issued for the collection of arms, the muster of men, and the setting up of a gibbet in Leicester, that the county authorities were nervous (pp. 59-64, 71-2).

Sixty armed men were marched out of Leicester in June, 1607, under the leadership of the County Justices, to Welham near Market Harborough to maintain order there, and at the same time an unauthorised band went to Cotesbach in Leicestershire—a place fifteen miles from Leicester—to take part in the "laying of the ditches." The latter enterprise was obviously the one which commended itself most to the people of Leicester. Lord Huntingdon's treatment of the Mayor, whom he put under arrest, shows that he suspected the town authorities of secret sympathy with the rioters, in spite of the fact that Mr Heyricke, the Mayor and Mr Gyllot one of the Aldermen went "by appoyntement of the deputies of the Lorde Lyvetenant" to Lutterworth "to admonyshe the people of the towne of Leicester" (p. 71). It appears from the Chamberlains' Accounts (p. 70) that a present of wine was "given to the Judges at theirre beinge in Leicester to hold a prystie Sessions abowte the unlawfull assembyle for Leyinge oppen of Inclosures" (p. 70).

The Mayor and Burgesses made vigorous efforts to prevent the enclosure of the forest, 1626-9 (pp. 239-44). Paul Abney, one of the Aldermen, was sent up to London to appeal to Parliament, and the Corporation offered Charles I £500 if he would stop it (p. 244). The enclosure was carried out in spite of these efforts, but the rights of the borough, with regard to their land, and those of the poorest inhabitants of the town, were recognised to some extent (pp. 242-3, 279). Twenty acres of forest land was set apart to satisfy the town pasture rights, and forty acres were "alloted" for the use of the poor, and the money coming from the forty acres was devoted to the purpose of providing fuel.

It is interesting to find evidence of continued opposition to the encroachments upon the forest. During the troubled years of the reign of Charles I and of the Commonwealth and Protectorate, efforts were made to secure the "disafforestation" of the forest, whenever political circumstances appeared to be favourable to the course. For example, in January 1641, a time when King and Parliament had come to a

deadlock, at a meeting of the Twenty Four it was resolved that if there was any chance of disafforestation they would petition Parliament for it (p. 302), and in May, 1641, the borough decided to join the Commoners of the forest land in presenting such a petition (p. 307).

Those opposed to enclosure expected support from the government of the Commonwealth, but they were disappointed. In Leicester several men were arrested in February, 1649, for spreading a rumour that Parliament had ordered the throwing down of the forest enclosure, and although the Town government still wanted this, it was not until 1653 that it took active steps to get it (p. 414). In 1653 the Protectorate was set up and Cromwell became the ruler of the country. Cromwell had been well known in Huntingdon before the Civil War for his opposition to enclosures, and there is no doubt that Leicester men were encouraged to exert themselves by his advent to power. There is evidence that a good deal of agitation and organisation against the enclosure movement was going on in Leicester and in the county at this time. Mr Moore of Shearsby was a leader in the business and the Major General kept an eye on the proceedings. Enclosure was certainly taking place on a wide scale, for, in a letter to Mr Moore, giving an account of towns "depopulated and decayed" the writer said "above a third part of the Country, if not halfe" had been enclosed, and the movement was still going on (p. 428). It appears from the Chamberlains' Accounts 1655-6 that it was the enclosure of Belgrave which was of particular interest to Leicester at the moment (p. 440).

There is a very interesting petition putting forward suggestions for an improved method of enclosure which must belong to this period. The petitioners recognised that the enclosure of lands might be good policy, but they complained that enclosure "as it is managed by some proves the overthrowe of their families which do attempt it, and the apparent damage of the public." What was needed, they argued, was that all enclosures should be carried out under some authority capable of directing the work, and of looking after the interests of the poorer people. The petitioners declared that Parliament had shown no intention of protecting the "poorer sort," and they suggested that power should be granted "to some worthy gentlemen, true friends and patriotes of their Counties good (in the nature of a Corporacion) to Regulate the disorders of husbandry, both in Inclosing and Inter-commoning. Soe that noe town in Common may be inclosed without approbation of the said Corporacion, upon just and satisfying grounds that the inclosure shall not prejudice the publike" (pp. 428-30).

IV. The government of the town in trade and industry.

The influence of Parliamentary legislation in industrial affairs was felt in Leicester in the seventeenth century. The Statute of Artificers was enforced to some extent, and, apart from this, the public appears to have been very much alive to its legal rights. This is shown clearly in the Bakers' Case in 1610-12 (pp. 106, 125-8). A dispute arose between the Company of Bakers and a number of men who insisted on baking "unlawful" bread, in defiance, as it was thought, of the law. The case was brought into the Duchy Court, and the rebel bakers, who were not members of the Company of Bakers, were ordered to desist from their unlawful practices. Two of them, Wright and Pestell, refused to obey, and showed that they were eager to have their case tried in the ordinary courts. Wright managed to present a petition to the King in person, when he visited Leicester, and the matter was referred by him to the Mayor and Burgesses.

Meanwhile opinion in the town was showing itself to be strongly in favour of Wright and against the Company of Bakers. Just before the King's visit the Magistrates examined various persons "on their opynion and likinge of the bread vicz the vi^d loves of Howsholde breade which the said Thomas Wrighte doth usuallie bake and put to sale." One man declared that these loaves "are more profitable unto the buyers than the 1 penye howsholde loves which the Bakers of Leicester doe usuallye bake and sell to the poore people." Another agreed with the former witness and said "he had much triall thereof: and purposeth to have more: And alsoe divers poore people cam to justifie as much." The Magistrates came to the conclusion that this testimony was true, and that Wright's bread was "more profitable for the poore" than the bread sold by the Company of Bakers, and they signified the same to the Recorder. The result of all this was that the case was referred back to the Duchy Court, and again back to the Mayor, thus finally proving that Wright and Pestell's willingness to appeal to the ordinary Courts was based on sound instinct or knowledge; the judgment being that the law was actually in their favour and "the original complaint about the business was a wrongfull vexation." On another occasion when an appeal was made to the law of the land against the regulations of the borough, the Magistrates were astonished, and asked the man how he came to know what the law was. He replied that he had been instructed by an informer. Both the question and answer are of interest because the one implies a general ignorance of the law among the people, whilst the other is evidence of sufficient

curiosity and ability amongst some to let them pursue the profitable business of informers (p. 155).

There are one or two examples of industrial regulation under the Elizabethan Acts, as, for example, (*a*) the granting of a license and passport to a servant who wished to leave his master (p. 21), and (*b*) the apprenticing of a servant girl to a shoemaker and his wife, from whom she had run away (p. 186). Possibly the girl may have gained to some extent by her action, as her position was regularised, but the fierceness of the compulsory measures employed at that time is shown in the decision: "if she fortune to run awaye againe, that then she shalbee sent to the house of Correction, and theire to Contynue duringe her life."

The town government was expected to regulate trade and industry, and it was natural for a man to appeal to the Companies for help when in difficulties. There are a number of petitions of this kind among the records. The one in which a man asked for help against persons to whom he had pawned his goods, shows both the dislike of the exactions of the pawnbroker, and that the borough authorities were ready to assist. The petitioner complained that he was unable to redeem his goods, which were worth much more than he had received for them, and he asked that they might "be viewed and priced at reasonable rates." The Companies replied by granting 40/- "to be layd out to set him on worke" (pp. 259-60).

Another application to the Corporation shows how a number of men tried to secure higher wages by making a concerted appeal to the Mayor for either work or maintenance. Ten men were concerned in this affair, and one of them confessed that he could have had work for wages of 4*d.* a day, but that he refused to work for less than 5*d.* (p. 257).

The idea of demanding more than the customary wages was as repugnant as the idea of exacting more than the just price for goods. These ideas were, however, breaking down. The prices of goods in Leicester and the county were rising, and were thought to be excessive. In October, 1622, the Lord Keeper, John, Bishop of Lincoln, issued rates for the "Restrayninge of the Immoderate and excessive gayne taken by Butchers, Inholders, Hostlers, Bakers, Poulters, Cookes and other sellers of victual" within the county (pp. 200-1).

Early in the century an important economic privilege was obtained for Leicester in the grant of the Staple of Wool made by James I in 1617. It was necessary to obtain this privilege, as by the removal of the Staple from the Netherlands to England the wool market, granted in the Charters of 1589-99, could no longer be held. In petitioning

for the Staple the Leicester merchants pointed out that the market in the wool trade was a wide one. They said that "divers Northern Clothiers have usuallie bought their woolls in Leicester," and that many Merchants of the Staple, an organisation on a national and not a local basis, lived in the town. When the Privy Council in 1632 required the Corporation to nominate persons to "use the trade of selling Tobacco" within the borough, five out of the nine men so nominated were either Mercers or Grocers (pp. 169, 170-1, 172, 173, 178-81, 183).

Petitions to the Companies are the chief source of information as to conditions in the different trades, and those of the Tailors and Cordwainers fill the largest amount of space.

The Company of Tailors was finding it difficult to maintain their trading privileges in the first quarter of the seventeenth century. The Corporations sometimes admitted men to the Trade Companies against the wishes of the members, and the Tailors' Company objected to this. They complained of strangers, who paid neither scot nor lot, coming into the town and stealing their trade from them. They declared that they "lye lurking in the suburbs, and other secret places, and robbe your suppliants of the worke," and they ask that no one should be admitted to their Company without their consent (pp. 236, 238).

New forms of specialisation and division of work appeared, some of which were accepted with favour, while others were resisted. Edward Lee, a tailor, who took up the work of "Bodymaker," built up a flourishing business in and round Leicester (p. 516). He declared he had spent "much money to gayne acquaintance for the vending of his commodities," and had "by his industry gotten the acquaintance of persons of Honor and other gentlewomen besides a way of trade with Shop Keepers and others."

Another interesting example of new developments in industry can be found in a statement made to the Recorder concerning a trade dispute in 1664. A man named Shilcock who had served his seven years' apprenticeship to the Tailors' trade "not being content with the trade wherein he was brought up...nowe byes great quantities of Cloth of forrein Clothiers makes them up into garments and sells and exposes them ready made to sale to the great impoverishinge of the Drapers, Mercers, Taylors and other Tradesmen there," i.e. in Leicester (p. 491).

The Company of Tailors were continually opposing the petitions of poor tailors who had built up a business, set up shop, and then demanded the freedom of the borough. This last was usually denied them, but sometimes they were authorised to work as "botchers," i.e. menders of clothes (p. 358).

Leicester was not a centre of cloth making. In 1659, when the wool trade was troubled by claims made by Aulnagers, the Drapers and Mercers showed that Leicester was not a place for "making and dressing cloathes" (p. 461). The "Case for the Mercers and Drapers" in Leicester is an interesting document. It shows how the Mercers and Drapers of Coventry urged on those in Leicester to organise opposition to the Aulnager and to unite with them in defence of their interests (pp. 475-7).

The Cordwainers' Company had the same difficulty in maintaining trade privileges as the Tailors, and in this trade the Cobblers' position was similar to that of the botchers in tailoring (pp. 351, 388-9). In 1645 an important regulation was made by the Mayor and Burgesses with regard to the conditions under which the freedom of the town might be obtained. It was decided that no man could claim freedom by reason of apprenticeship, unless he had served his apprenticeship in some trade that "usually and legally" took apprentices (p. 337). This regulation was obviously aimed at such persons as workmen who set up as Cobblers, opening shops and taking apprentices (p. 350). The Cordwainers had a long struggle with the Tanners over the right which the former claimed to general control over all leather brought into the town. A new leather hall was provided in the Drapery Chamber, January, 1648, and it may have been this hall which the Tanners refused to use (p. 515). The borough Tanners were expected to pay the rent of the hall, but they refused to do this, "being discontented," and instead they brought actions against the country tanners. The Cordwainers complained of the complete breakdown of the whole system of control over leather. "Where there is one hide searched and sealed," they declared, "there are sometimes Tenn for one that comes not to be proved whether lawfull or unlawfull" (pp. 461, 482). The Civil Wars had a very disturbing effect on town life and nearly all the petitions relating to trade come from this period, and were probably due to abnormal conditions. The wars, however, must have had a permanent effect on the development of trade and industry, and must have helped considerably to break down the old methods of regulation.

The petitions of the Stocking makers in 1673 (pp. 536-8) not only shows the emergence of a new trade, hosiery, but also the growth of new ideas. The arguments used in that petition as to the benefit of quantity against quality, the use of new mechanical methods, the doubtful expediency of trade regulations and the economic value of child labour, forecast the general lines of future industrial development and the ideas which were to govern it.

The freedom of the town remained a valuable privilege, however, to the end of the Stuart period. Applications for freedom were answered with regard to economic considerations alone, except in the case of men admitted to freedom in order to stand for the borough as Members of Parliament. Religious animosity seems at first sight to have inspired the refusal of freedom to Samuel Brown, Apothecary, in 1669, since at the foot of the petition is written "agreed not fitt to be read the Peticioner being a Quaker" (p. 521), but the Apothecaries who opposed Brown's admission to freedom argued the case on economic grounds alone, and Samuel Brown was admitted later in spite of his Quakerism.

The laws governing the making and retailing of beer and the control of Alehouses and Inns seem to have been widely disregarded, and only to have become important when there was a shortage of food or some reason for fearing "a tumult" (pp. 74, 140, 196). The fines for breaking the assize of Ale went to the use of the poor, and perhaps this is one reason why the offence was not regarded seriously by the authorities (p. 188). In reply to "Lord Cooks Articles unto the Mayor and Justices of the Borough in 1665" a Constable gave the following report of his ward. "Wee have 13 Inns and Alehouses in our ward, and all of them keep good orders in their houses. Wee have noe Common Drunkards in the sayd ward to my knowledge"; and at the end of his report he added a list of thirteen persons for "breaking the Assize of beere and Ale" (p. 498).

In James I's reign men were getting licenses from the Mayor on the one hand and were holders of a royal grant on the other, and the result was utter confusion (pp. 4, 161, 174-5, 176). Licenses were given under the great seal of England or under the seal of some holder of a royal monopoly. Such a monopoly was granted to Sir Walter Raleigh in the reign of James I, an Order from the Privy Council (pp. 6-7) deals with this, and to Lord Stanford in the reign of Charles I. There is a protest against this monopoly, which shows how it conflicted with the privileges and government of the Corporation (pp. 286-7). The Justices of the Peace reported to the Recorder in 1622 that there were eight score of Alehouses in Leicestershire. Men left the trades to which they had been bred and took to malting, and it was said that Wigston Hospital had been turned into a malting house (pp. 196-7). There was a shortage of food in the town and "the said wrongs had almost made a mutiny against some townsmen malsters."

*V. Leicester under the Stuart monarchy and the Commonwealth.**James I, 1603-25.*

The transition from the Tudor to the Stuart monarchy took place peaceably in Leicester, though the anxiety shown in the letter of the Privy Council was probably felt by the Mayor and Burgesses (p. 1). Leicester, being on one of the main routes from London to the North, was inundated with travellers. Within a few years the town was visited by the King, the Queen, Prince Henry, Prince Charles and Princess Elizabeth. The royal visitors brought many others to the town, both before and after their arrival, as may be seen from the record of presents of wine and provision of banquets in the Chamberlains' Accounts.

The inhabitants probably enjoyed the stir, but it put a great strain on the finances of the Corporation. Costly preparations had to be made before a royal visit. Roads and pavements were repaired, the King's Arms were set up, gates were painted, and vast efforts made to provide adequate household accommodation for the guests. Bedding was fetched from Elmesthorpe, and pewter and linen were borrowed wherever they could be obtained. Long after the royal party had left the Corporation was settling with those who had suffered loss by the exactions of the King's officers, the dishonesty of his servants, or the negligence of those responsible for returning borrowed articles.

Leicester suffered severely from an outbreak of plague 1609-11, which in 1611(?) prevented the Recorder from coming to be present at the election of the Mayor and caused the Justices of Assize to hold their Sessions at Hinckley (pp. 114, 119, 120).

There was a somewhat heated correspondence between the Corporation and the Recorder and others who decided to avoid the town, and the Mayor was very angry with the Bailiff of Melton and the Townsmen of Harborough for their hesitation in accepting the official statements as to the health of the town without corroborative testimony from certain gentlemen, such as Dr Chippingdale (p. 103). There is no doubt, however, that in the interests of trade, the borough authorities sometimes misrepresented the state of affairs and had indeed been lax in their control over men who traded outside the town (p. 118).

There is not much evidence of the political feeling of the times during James I's reign. Sir William Hericke, who was one of the Burgesses, and was evidently a man very much beloved in Leicester, was

certainly a Parliamentarian, and his views on foreign and domestic politics were those of a majority of the middle class of the towns (pp. 137, 176, 195).

Early in the reign there is no doubt of the strong support given by the borough to the Stuart monarchy. At the time of the Gunpowder Plot the town authorities worked amicably with those of the county for the prevention of disorder and the arrest of the rebels (pp. 37-41). The difference between the Mayor and Burgesses and Lord Huntingdon, when the Enclosure riot took place, was entirely non-political. The Companies formally resisted a claim made by Sir Thomas Parry, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, to nominate the Parliamentary burgesses for Leicester, but they accepted one of his nominees, and it appears from a letter from the Recorder that they accepted as their other representative a nominee of Lord Huntingdon (pp. 137, 147-9).

Nevertheless, to those who know after-events, there are clear indications of a gathering storm. The financial exactions of the Stuart monarchy are well illustrated in these pages, and it is possible to see, to some extent, how exasperating they were. Leicester had to pay the old feudal dues for the Knighting of the King's eldest son (pp. 93, 97, 98-9), and the marriage of his eldest daughter (p. 140). It had to pay benevolences (p. 192), and, above all, it suffered under monopolies (pp. 6 [174], 286) and other royal grants.

There were acute differences of opinion between leading townsmen in the reign of James I. These seem to have arisen over questions relating to town policy and to the management of the money which came to the borough through the murder of Mrs Clarke in 1605, but political differences may have lain behind them.

Mr Chettell, who was Mayor 1604-5, had spent weeks in London negotiating for the Charter, and he may have got into touch with politicians there, but, so far as the records themselves go, there is no evidence for this. In the letter to the Deputy Mayor and Aldermen (May, 1605, pp. 33-6) an appeal is made for unity of action in the interests of the Corporation, "And therefore wee pray you by your ioynt letters and subscriptions comfort our weeke knees either in proceedinge under or for-goeing this heavy burden; there is (God make you wise to chuse the better) bothe freedom and thraldom in this matter proposed unto you, as you are one corporacion so indeede be one in herte and accion, and let not the house be divided in ytselfe; lest by our Saviors prophecie our Maioraltre become a Bayl-wicke, for in theis articles the Steward in the Court of pleas doeth challenge

to be Superior and cheiffe to the Maior. Theis be but the begininge of evills unles you be faithful and of good and wise heartes."

Those who were upholding the interests of the town in London were kept very short of money, but Wm Dethicke, the Mayor's Clerk, wrote from Leicester in February, 1605, "For moneye take no care, for M^r Noryce hathe xlij*l.* in his hand, which I hope will prove A Weyfe, which the fellows tooke Awey, and after lefte it with the meyde"—this was the money belonging to Mrs Clarke of the Blue Boar, who was murdered during Mr Chettell's absence.

In the Chamberlains' Accounts of 1604-5 after a statement of expenses arising from various town suits the following note appears: "Whereof Remaeynyng in M^r Thomas Chettell's hands to answere to the Towne xl*l.* vs. 1*d.*" (p. 46). In March, 1607, the Accounts of Mr Chettell's year were read, and "for that theire is many defects therein, which is to be further considered of, therefore the said accompt is deferred to be better vewed and considered of untill after the next Assizes." Special auditors were appointed (p. 52), and the Account was "examyned, perfected and Caste by the above named Audytors. And the Towne founde in dett to the said Chamberlyns in the somme of iiiij*l.* xvjs. xd." Also there was "Owing by M^r Chettell, which he received of the Townes monye mencioned in this accompt, lij*l.* xixs. iijd." In August, 1607, the accounts for Mr Chettell's year were passed "excepte the debte therein mencioned owinge by the saide M^r Chettell late Maior," and from the Chamberlains' Accounts 1607-8 we can see that it was the money coming from Mrs Clarke that was in dispute (p. 79).

Charles I, 1625-49.

The financial demands of the Crown fill a large space in the records of Charles I's reign, though there is little evidence to show how they were received. There were government complaints in 1625 and 1629 of the poor returns from the subsidies both in town and county (pp. 225, 249), supplemented by demands for (a) a forced loan 1627 (p. 233), (b) composition for Knighthood 1630 (pp. 235-6), (c) a fine for non-attendance at the Coronation 1631 (p. 263), (d) Ship Money 1635 and 1639, and (e) a levy of £50 for military purposes (pp. 232, 234, 235, 237).

As far as can be judged from the records there was not much opposition to the payment of the forced loan or of the first levy of Ship Money (pp. 233, 281-2, 283, 284). The demand for £300 for non-attendance at the Coronation, made in 1631, was met with definite

refusal (p. 263) and there seems to have been active opposition to the second levy of Ship Money, some of which was gathered by distress (pp. 292, 297). And a letter from the Privy Council December, 1639, shows the difficulty of collection (p. 297). Mr Stanley, one of the Aldermen, had probably prevented trouble in 1635, as it is recorded in the Accounts that he made up the sum required himself (p. 292).

Resistance was made to the levy of £50 for military purposes in 1626 (p. 232). Seventy-five persons refused to pay, and their refusal seems to have been either a protest against the principle of taxation involved, or some dispute connected with the Musters. The total sum for which they were liable was only £5. 11s. od., and among those who refused were Members of the Companies. In April, 1627, the Common Hall agreed by general consent to pay the money collected to the Earl of Huntingdon, "and the names to be certified of those that will not paye" (p. 235), and it was ordered in July that "if any of eyther of the Companies of the 24^{tie} or 48^{tie}, or any other [person], within the said Borough be behinde, or hereafter shalbe behinde, for any Cessememente [*illegible*] for mustering or trayning or other lawful taxacion,... and refuse to pay the same upon demand thereof, then the same persone or persones to be distrayned [in their] goods or committed to warde" (p. 237).

In June, 1639, Mr William Stanley and Mr Blunt were sent to the Earl of Huntingdon "for to entreat his Lordshipp that Mr Maior maye be spared from giveing any list of the 24 and 48 and other [men] of worth within the said towne, accordeing to a letter received from the said Lord, and that they [shall] deale in the business as they shall find cause" (p. 298).

The spirit shown in the letter of nervous caution, coupled with the desire to resist the continuous demands made upon the town, is typical of the records of this period.

As to the dispute with the Crown on ecclesiastical matters the records are almost silent. The reform movement initiated by Laud was concerned partly with questions relating to ritual and the conduct of services, and partly with the maintenance of the fabric of the Churches and the care of Church property in general. As regards the latter, Leicester was made to carry out some necessary work by pressure from above. Probably St Mary's Church was saved from the fate of St Leonard's, the nave of which collapsed in 1611 (pp. 116-7), by the activity of the Church authorities (pp. 239, 275, 276). At the same time the Mayor and Burgesses were made to spend a large sum on the restoration of the chancel of St Martins, and the chancel was again

put to the use for which it was built. The library, which had been kept there, was removed to a separate building, and, in all probability, the altar was set up at the east end, though it was moved into the body of the Church when the Communion service was celebrated. The Lord Keeper's letter advising that this should be done is interesting. He suggested that the east end was the most convenient place for the altar, and he implied that he did not attach much importance on any other grounds to where it stood (pp. 270-1). Questions such as these were the cause of violent conflict in other towns, but in Leicester the Bishop seems to have secured his reforms without stirring up any great opposition.

That the Puritan element was strong in Leicester is clear. In James I's reign there had been a movement on foot for closing shops on Sunday, and there is a list of prominent townsmen who were willing to pledge themselves to do this (pp. 26, 37, 54). In Charles I's reign the Aldermen were instructed by a Common Hall to insist on householders attending the weekly sermon given by the Town Lecturer on Wednesdays (p. 272), but this was an enforcement of a former order, and the "Wednesday exercise of fasting praying and preaching" is mentioned in two other extracts of 1623 and 1625 (pp. 203-24). In the first of these the popularity of preaching as a religious exercise is clear, as is also the desire of the government to restrain it within narrow limits. Attendance at the parish Church on Sunday had been required by the Act of Uniformity since 1565, but compulsory attendance at a weekly sermon was not part of an Englishman's legal duties; it was a development of religious exercises favoured and enforced by the borough. There is one letter addressed to Archbishop Laud in answer to a warrant issued by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, in which Mr Clerk, Vicar of Thornton, is reported to have confessed on examination that in a private house "he did then and there repeate the Sermon which he had that morning preached in St Maries Leicester, and that they did singe a psalm before and one after the said repetition" (p. 272). The Mayor and Burgesses were a good deal concerned with ecclesiastical affairs, but the question which appears to have occupied them most was the organisation of ecclesiastical work. The relative duties and salaries of the Schoolmaster, the Vicar of St Mary's and the Master of the Newark Hospital and the Town Preacher or Lecturer were frequently debated and various resolutions were passed about them (pp. 227-8, 228, 229-30, 230-1).

When the Civil War broke out the desire of the Mayor and Burgesses appears to have been to choose a safe course (pp. 320-1), but

on the whole they inclined towards the Parliamentary side. The members of Parliament sent down a Protestation to be "administered to the inhabitants of this Borough by the Ministers of the severall Parishes, and to that end the Ministers was sent for and preached on it, and some of them came to the Towne Hall and so many as came viz. Mr Angell, Lecturer, Mr White, Mr Warde and Mr John Angell was there requested to undertake that service in obeydience to the house" (p. 307).

The financial requirements of both parties were heavy. In August, 1642, the town granted £50 to Prince Rupert (p. 314), and, encouraged by this, the Prince demanded £2000 in September (pp. 317-8). The King wrote to disavow Prince Rupert's demands (p. 319), and finally the sum of £500 was paid (pp. 318, 319, 323).

Meanwhile Parliament was attempting to raise funds, and a heavy tax was put on the country with a view to raising £100,000. The size of the sum required was noted with alarm in Leicester, but apart from this there is no further evidence about it. In 1643 it was decided to sell part of the Town plate (p. 325), and in 1644 there were complaints from the Committee of the Two Kingdoms of Leicester's backwardness in raising money for the Irish army (pp. 330, 332, 336-7).

The town suffered heavily in the war. A large number of houses, including the Grange buildings, were pulled down in order to erect fortifications, and further damage was done when Leicester was captured by the royalist forces. One document speaks of 200 families being homeless, and there are a large number of petitions for help from those who had suffered in the siege (pp. 335, 336, 341, 343, 349-50, 365).

Commonwealth and Protectorate. 1649-60.

The records during this period are scanty. This is particularly unfortunate, as those which have survived are of considerable interest.

The Puritans of the town were, of course, in the ascendant after January, 1649. John Angell and John Price, two of the Ministers, refused to take the Engagement, and were dismissed from their posts (pp. 396, 400). The former continued to claim his salary, as Town Lecturer and Preacher at the Hospital, and it was decided in the law courts by Justice Bradshawe that the decision of the Council of State, which had imposed the Engagement, did not affect Angell's legal claims to it (p. 426). The dismissal of Angell and Price may have been more in accordance with the wishes of the Commonwealth gov-

ernment than with those of the town. In the Chamberlains' Accounts, 1654-55 (p. 431), it is recorded that £10 was paid to "Mr Angell, late Lecturer in this Towne, by order of a Common Hall." This may be part of the salary still due to him, or it may be a gift from the town. A petition of Anne Angell of a later date shows that Mr Angell hoped that the Corporation would continue to pay his salary, as his departure from his office was not voluntary (pp. 538-9). The enforcement of attendance at the Lecture (p. 399), and of Sabbath day regulations, and the non-observance of the great Church festivals (p. 400), show sympathy with the Protestant cause on the part of the Mayor and Burgesses, but the latter were certainly not Sectaries. Apparently they wanted a State Church of a strongly Protestant character and their wishes on this point remained remarkably constant. In 1651, for example, they appealed to the Government to nominate a Lecturer and definitely stated that they were against his appointment by election, because the differences of opinion amongst them would only be accentuated by an electoral contest (pp. 400-1). Again in 1656 when Mr Barton, the Vicar of St Mary's, preached the tenets of Congregationalism, they were hotly opposed to him (pp. 436, 437, 438). The only record of any violence caused by religious differences is that of the attack on Mr Harding in 1649 (pp. 384-5, 393).

It is impossible to say what Mr Harding's religious views were, but it is interesting to notice that he claimed to occupy the pulpit by the authority of the Committee. This must have been the Town Committee, set up to work with the military authorities and similar authorities in the County (pp. 382-3), and Mr Richard Ludlam, who was apparently one of the Churchwardens, ordered him to leave the pulpit, and declared that "the Committee had nothing to do in the parish." The persons concerned in the riot were brought before a jury, and the lawful authorities of the parish were acquitted of unlawful action, it being "adjudged what they did as being in office, and not out of violent intentions," while seventeen unofficial persons "was particularly named to be riotous, and 5 unknowne."

The Army was the stronghold of Sectarianism, and it seems, both in this case and in the case of Mr Barton, that the leading men in the town were conservative and opposed to the religious developments in the army. They welcomed greater freedom with regard to preaching, and the long lists of gifts to preachers in the Chamberlains' Accounts testify to the activities of preachers in the town (pp. 311, 353, 364), but this did not mean that they welcomed any fundamental change in the conduct of religious services or other practices of religious life. For

example, owing to a bequest of Christopher Tamworth to the town in 1624, matins and evensong were said at St Martins daily, and it was part of the legal duties of the vicar to read these Services (pp. 212, 221, 225, 226, 251). One of the points in dispute with Mr Barton was this. In January, 1657, it is recorded that at a meeting of the Mayor and Justices "Mr Barton was sent for, and Tamworths prayers were offered unto him to bee performed, as beinge Vicar of St Martins. But hee refused to perform the same or accept thereof."

In October, 1649, two men were convicted of heresy before the County Justices, under the Ordinance of Parliament issued in May, 1648, and in February, 1650, heretical books were searched for, and a report was sent to Peter Temple, one of the Council of State, declaring that "upon perusal in our apprehensions, wee finde to be of a very dangerous consequence, and lets open a very wide dore to Atheisme and profanes" (pp. 386-7, 397).

In November, 1651, a visitation of the free school was held, and a change made in the books used by the scholars. It was decreed that "Christian authors, both Greek and Latine, be brought into ye roome of prophane. Such as Calvini institutions and epistles for prose, Minucius Felix and Sulpicius Severus for Mystery, Daport on Jobe and on ye Canticles for poetry" (p. 399).

The enforcement of Sabbath day observance rested on the authority of Acts of Parliament during this period (p. 399). Several parents were fined by the magistrates in 1652 for allowing their children to play on the Lord's day, and a man was fined and set in the stocks for ringing the Church bell (p. 408). An order issued by the Mayor in 1657 complains, however, that "there is, and of late hath beene, a very great neglect of the due observacion of the Lords day within this Burrough, contrary to severall Acts of Parliament in that case made and provided," and asks for a return of the names "of all such persons as you shall find usually to absent themselves from the publique place of meetinge, and not makeing it appeare that they have beene exercising themselves in religious Duties."

In spite of the large number of preachers who passed through the town during the Commonwealth and Protectorate period, there seems to have been great difficulty in providing for the needs of the parishes. In the Chamberlains' Accounts, 1650-51, it is recorded that the Mayor and divers Aldermen went and dined with ministers who had been entertained in the town, when they "kept the frydaie lectures and dayes of humiliacion," and that they went to "entreatare theire suplyes for the Lords dayes" (p. 407).

Confusion seems to have reigned both as to methods of appointment and as to finance. The number of parishes was reduced, but this did not enable the town authorities to get over the financial difficulty, and there are many extracts dealing with this problem (pp. 340, 345–6, 401, 402, 403, 404, 415–6, 469).

After the Restoration there is little evidence in the records concerning religious and ecclesiastical affairs. There seem to have been no violent changes. The weekly Lecture was continued—at least for a considerable time (pp. 481, 512). Mr Barton continued his activities, “so that hee preach upon Catachisticall heads” (p. 482), and at a later date he preached four election sermons in the town (p. 494).

There was fear of a rising of Conventiclers early in Charles II's reign (p. 470), but the town authorities do not seem to have been very active in the suppression of Conventicles, and appear to have welcomed the legal or practical difficulties which such a policy met with (pp. 523, 557).

The Governments of the Commonwealth and Protectorate were set up by military force, and the army on which their power depended had to be rewarded. The Crown lands and revenues were naturally marked out for this purpose and Leicester, as part of the Duchy of Lancaster, was deeply affected. Immediately after the death of Charles I the town was agitated by the news that the Crown lands were to be put up for sale, and that an Act had been passed for the sale of fee farm rents which annulled all royal grants made after May, 1641.

This meant first, that the revenue coming to the Corporation and the Newark Hospital from the manor of Tutbury and the College of St Mary was endangered, secondly that the perquisites of the Courts, which the town held on a recent grant from the Crown, would be taken from them.

The Mayor and Burgesses claimed the revenues coming from Crown lands as immediate tenants, whose rights were safeguarded, but their claim was disallowed. The town solicitor wrote to say that this point had been decided against them, and that the whole Honour of Leicester “is pitcht upon by a regiment, and that if the Towne of Leicester will purchase, it must be from them.” Negotiations went on for a long time. The borough petitioned Parliament in 1650 that the Newark revenues should be exempted from the sale, and declared that for two years it had been impossible to collect the money due to the hospital, during which time the Corporation had maintained the Almsmen in confidence that Parliament would make good their loss (pp. 379–81).

The petition was granted, and "a stopp is made of those fee farm rents mencioned in the order" (p. 397). With regard to the remainder of the rents, the borough was left to bargain with the purchasers, that is to say the soldiers.

The perquisites of the Courts in Leicester were obtained by a certain Colonel Saunderson (p. 400), and the town held them from him at a yearly rent but trouble arose with regard to the payment of the rent in 1658 and 1659, owing to Colonel Saunderson having ceased to be Lord of the Honour (pp. 448-58).

After the Restoration the town held the perquisites of the Courts on the grant made them by Charles I. In 1669, when the lease had nearly expired, they were invited to bargain for a new one, and this was done (p. 520). The surrender of the town charter in 1684 put an end to existing privileges and powers, and at a meeting of the Mayor and several members of both Companies it was decided to "beseech his Majestie to graunt the Corporacion the revercion of the perquisites of the Court Leete and other communities there unto belonging" (p. 560).

The restoration of the Stuart monarchy appears to have come upon Leicester as a surprise. The Mayor and Burgesses evidently regarded the Protectorate government as firmly established and refused to join the County in sending an address to Monck (p. 459).

Charles II, James II, 1660-88.

There is little to show how the restoration of the Monarchy was greeted in Leicester. The Mayor wrote to John Gray, one of the Burgesses of the town, to say that the proclamation of Charles II had been "done with greate solemnity and acclamacions of the people then any of the like nature that hath in this place preceded them, with as greate joy and unanimity as it hath beene performed in any place of his Maiesties Dominions whatsoever," but his royalist fervour was obviously partly inspired by fear as he adds "Sir this Short Accompt I by thadvice of my Brethren thought fitt to give you for your satisfaction and for the provencion of any Calumnyes that may be cast on this Borough" (pp. 464-5). Mr Gray replied that he was glad to hear how great the rejoicing in the town had been (p. 465), and, in January, 1661, Lord Loughborough wrote to thank the Mayor and Burgesses for the support they had shown themselves ready to give in putting down a rising. Lord Loughborough evidently tried to get the Borough to accept his nominee at the election of 1660, but he met with resistance (pp. 470-1) and a resolution of Common Hall, March, 1661, shows that

the Corporation was prepared to fight for the maintenance of its political freedom (p. 473).

The towns had been strongholds of the Parliamentary cause, and the monarchy did not leave them long undisturbed. A committee for regulating Corporations was set up and got to work in Leicester in the autumn of 1662 (p. 479). The two Companies were so drastically remodelled that out of 72 members in November, 1660, forty were struck off the rolls, and of these fifteen were Aldermen. The leading men who had governed the town during the Civil Wars were thus forced into retirement. (For this see lists of the Companies at the end of the volume.)

By the Charter of 1665 and by a series of Acts passed by Parliament, membership of the Corporation was reserved to those who would take the oaths of Supremacy and Allegiance and renounce the Covenant. In 1665 three men who were nominated for the Company of Fortyeight refused to renounce the Covenant, were thereupon sent for by the Privy Council and ordered to pay a heavy fine. The Mayor complained that these men wished to escape from their obligations to the town, were unwilling to serve as members of the Companies, and had refused to renounce the Covenant for this reason only (pp. 498, 505-7).

It seems that the Corporation of Leicester, like that of other towns, was not strict in carrying out the orders of the Committee of Regulation. The Government complained twice, in 1668 and 1680, that persons who had been declared unfit to serve were allowed to do so, and although the Mayor and Burgesses denied the charge there is clear evidence in a letter from the Recorder that it was true (pp. 514-5, 552-3).

In spite of the efforts of the Committee of Regulation the Corporation appears to have been more or less hostile to the Monarchy after the beginning of the reign. Probably the inhabitants of the town were more royalist in their sympathies than their government, for, unless this was the case, it is difficult to account for the policy pursued by the Crown with regard to the Parliamentary franchise.

The right of electing the two Burgesses to Parliament had lain with the two Companies of the Twentyfour and Fortyeight for generations, but in Charles II's reign the Commonalty—those who paid scot and lot—claimed the right to vote, and succeeded in establishing their claim. In 1660 the Mayor had warned Lord Loughborough when he was trying to get the borough to elect a nominee of his, that if he nominated a stranger the commonalty would force their way in and outvote the Companies (p. 471). This is what actually happened (pp. 521-2, 545-6), and when Leicester was reincorporated in 1684 the Crown insisted on

the wide franchise being retained, against the wishes of the Companies (p. 576). There are very faint indications among the records of the Popish plot, and of the great struggle between the Whigs and the Crown, which ended in 1684 in the complete, but temporary, triumph of the latter. The "remodelling" of the town governments was a result of this victory. Leicester "voluntarily" surrendered its charter in 1684 and was immediately reincorporated (pp. 560, 561-4). Under the new charter the town government was brought under the direct control of the central government, and the latter was represented by the Earl of Huntingdon, who was made Recorder (pp. 564-79).

The free government of the town had been considerably curtailed by Parliamentary legislation and the Committee for regulating Corporations, but it was now destroyed. There were frequent changes in the composition of the two Councils of 24 Aldermen and 36 Burgesses, and a perceptible deterioration in the character of the government.

After the first "regulation" of the Corporation in 1662 there was complaint of the inexperience of members of the Companies. It was proposed, at that time, to vote a year's revenue to the Crown for the repair of the Palace at Whitehall, and the matter was brought up at a Common Hall in 1663. No vote was taken, however, because most of the members of the Companies were new and unaccustomed to the management of town affairs (p. 484). Those persons who controlled the Corporation found it increasingly difficult to get men to serve, and judging from a petition of 1690, which is outside our period, they were forced to nominate men who were entirely unfit for the work.

The reincorporation of the borough really brings the history of the town to an end for the Stuart period. The records, which are scanty for the period of the Commonwealth and Protectorate and for Charles II's reign, are almost non-existent for the reign of James II. In 1688 James II was driven from the throne, and with the accession of William and Mary the towns recovered, in legal form, their old constitutions.

So far as Leicester was concerned it is clear that the Civil Wars had destroyed the old government of the town, and that no legal restoration could have much effect. At the beginning of the Stuart period the records give a picture of a government which was representative in a real sense of the community over which it ruled. It was independent in spirit, ready to defend and extend its powers and diligent in looking after the general interests of the town. The restored Corporation was not in a position either to represent the community or to rule over it as the old Corporation had done, and the tendency towards the separation of interest between the governing body and the town, which had

shown itself in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, was accentuated. The Royal Commission of 1833-5 showed how in Leicester members of the Corporation looked on their offices as private privileges, and the town property as their own, and although in 1688 there is nothing to show that this was then the case, it can be seen, nevertheless, that the borough government had been thoroughly disorganised during the wars, and that further deterioration of it was almost inevitable.

RECORDS OF THE BOROUGH OF LEICESTER

I. *Letter from Privy Council*

Hall Book III, p. 242. [March 25, 1603.] After our verie hartie Commendacions, forasmuche as it hathe pleased God to call oute of this lyfe to his mercie, our Late Dearest Soveraigne, Queene Elizabeth by meanes whereof theire Remayneth unto us no farther auctoritie then by provisionall care to applye our uttermost helpe and endeavours for the preservacion of Peace and tranquillitie and to make the better accompte and Representacion of the state unto the Kinge our soveraigne that nowe is. We doe therefore give you advertisement thereof ** to thend that all and everye one, Accordinge to theire severall degrees maye as deutifull subiectes ioyne in the like care and indeaver for the welfare of the same, and because theire is nothinge that can more suerlye and stronnglie bynde and maynteyne the safetye of this Realme, and of other domynyons thereto apperteyninge bothe agaynst the pernicious designes of forrayne and Common enymyes of this wholl state and ageynst anye domesticall and inward trobells, than as spedye resolucion with a firme untytie in the acknowledgment and profession of our present Soveraigne and Kinge, namelye James the VI Kinge of Scotland, and nowe allso James the first, Kinge of England, Fraunce and Ireland, we doe herewith send unto you, A proclamacion, the whiche as all persons of the Nobilitie of this Realme, that att this tyme and place, coulde presentlie be Assembled, And the generall and firme consent of the Cittie of London, the cheife place and resort of this Kingdome, and all other good subiects here abowtes, either of greater or meanor quallitie, oute of an assured conscience bothe for the good of the State and of the rightful soveraigne; have receyved and published with ioyfull acclamacion. Soe itt is verie necessarye that the effect and substance thereof, be fourthwith published and proclaymed in that Countye, which we praye you that you will cause instantlie to be done. As you tender your dutye to the Kinge our soveraigne and to the State, And soe we wyshe you verie hartylye well to fare, from the Palace of Whitehall att Westminster the xxvth of Marche 1603.

II. Common Hall

Hall Book III, p. 247. [May 13, 1603.] Memorandum that the twoe obligacions taken of John Clarke the last yere, for the providinge of Coles for the pore, and for the payment of the stocke of money backe ageyn, weare nowe delyvered to Mr Mayor, And by him the same were delyvered to the Chamberlyns, whoe weare there uppon appoynted to receyve the stocke of money for the Coles of the said John Clarke, which is now—*xxli*. And for the use of the Cole howsse, scoles and waightes due for the yere past by the said John Clarke xls. Also they are to receive of Mr William Cotton for the use of Coles for the poore, which was given to the Towne by Mr Thomas Cotton gent deceassed The Somme of *vli* So the wholl Somme for the stocke for Coles nowe is—*xxvijli*, And the said Chamberlyns Are now appoynted to provide Coles, vicz good Cole Overton Coles for the Pore, And to serve the poore of this Towne the yere followinge After,—*vjd.* the hundred, and so ratable by the halfe hundred, and quarter of the hundred, And to serve them at the old Towne hall Wednesdayes, and fridays weekelye, and oftener if neede require And the said Chamberlyns muste paye for the use of the Cole howsse Schooles and waightes up on the *iiijth* daye of Maye next commynge—*xls.*, over and besides the said *xxvijli* So the wholl somme they are then to pay is *xxixli* And to be bound for the true performance thereof As John Clarke was bound. And to beestoe the wholl stocke in Coles with Carriage. And to Buye no Coles in the Towne, nor by the waye comming to the Towne.

Item it is agreed that the Chamberlyns (at the Towne charges) shall repayre the Common Causes and wayes belonginge to the Towne.

Also it is further agreed, that everye howsholde within this Burrowe of Leycester shall repayre the Pay[v]ments belonginge to theire howses. And also to paynte the streeete side of theire howses, and they not of habylltie to performe the same att theire owne and wholl charges, then they to bee realeeved by theire Landlordes towardes the charges in repayringe the same.

III. Common Hall

Hall Book III, p. 248. [June 10, 1603.] First forasmuche as it is expected that the Queenes Maiestie and the younge Prince, att theire commynge oute of Scotland, wilbe shortlie att Leicester in theire [way] uppe to London to the Kinge. It is therefore thought verie fitt and Convenient to give a present to her Maiestie, And an other

Present to the Prince. It is nowe thereupon agreed to take uppe
fortie Powndes to that use, withoute anye Taxacion.

[June 15, 1603. Letter from Earl of Shrewsbury asking if the town was free from
the plague. Mr Rowes Master of the Old Hospital had died June 12 and it was
rumoured it was from that illness.]

IV. *Meeting of Mayor and the Twenty-four*

Hall Book III, p. 249. [June 19, 1603.] *For meeting the Queene.*
Also it is agreed that Maior and Sixe other of the Auncient Bretherne,
which have beeene Maiors, shall meeete the Queene on horsebacke, and
the Chieff Mace bearer to Ride. And the Reste of the xxiiijth and the
xlvijth to go on foote, and the other Seriantes.

*The present appoynted to be geven to the Queenes Maiestie and the
Prince.* first one standinge Cuppe with A Kever of Silver Doble Gilte
wayinge [xxxix] ownces Appoynted to bee geven to the Queenes
Maiestie.

And one other like Cuppe with a kever of Silver Double Gilte
wayinge [xxix and one half] ounces Appoynted to be geven to the
Prince.

V. *Records of royal visits*

Hall Book III, p. 250. [June 23, 1603.] Memorandum that upon
Thursdaie the xxijth daie of June [1603]—The Queenes Maiestie
vizc Anne Queene of England, Scotland, Fraunce and Ireland. And
the younge Prince Henrie, Prince of Wales, The Kinges eldest Sonne,
Cam from Ashebie Delazowche (from the Right honorable George
Earle of Huntingdon) to the Burge of Leicester And theire Laye that
night at Sir William Skipwith his howsse, And the Princes (the Kinges
Doughter) cam to Leicester, upon Wednesdaye night next before and
laye at Mr Pilkingtons howsse. And the Queen, the Prince and Princes,
went from Leicester upon fridaie the xxiiijth of the said June beinge
Mydsommer Daye, to Dingley, Sir Thomas Griffins howsse.

Memorandum that Mr Mayor and his Companye receyved the
Queenes Maiestie beyond the West brigge, vizc betweene the said
Brigge, and the cornor, as far as the old Liberties do goe, standinge
alone by the freerr wall side Where Mr Mayor did present unto her
Maiestie The Bigger and fayrer of the said Cuppes. And to the Prince,
the other Cuppe. And did present the princes (at her lodginge) with
wyne and suger. Who upon Wednesdaye night he mett in the Northe
gate, and conducted her, to her lodginge.

p. 251. Memorandum That Mr Richard Parkyns Esquier Recorder
of the Burrough of Leicester (whoe came to Leicester upon Thurs-

daye the xxijth daie of June 1603) in the forenoone, to Assosiate Master Maior and his Breetherne to meete the Queenes Maiestie and to make an Oration to her Maiestie, and the younge Prince, fell Sicke the same daie at Leicester, and their Contynued Sicke untill Sondaie next after, upon which daye hee Ridd whom to Boney to his howsse, And their Contynued Sicke untill Sondaye next ensuinge beinge the Thirde daye of Julye. And then departed this transitorie Lieffe.

VI. Letter from the Wine Office

Hall Papers IV, No. 235. [June 21, 1603.] Wee have beene earnestly entreated for a Lycense for this bearer Mr Chettle by divers of our good freinds and his of good worthe, but fyndinge our Covenants with you to the Contrarye wee have forborne therein uppon Mr Chettell and Mr Hall his brother in Lawe their securitye to surcease drawinge of wynes before the firste of August next, unlesse they cann either procure the Maior and his bretherne his lawfull warrant under their hands and seales to maynteyne and make good his license from them and to paye all such damages as shalbe recovered ageynst hym, otherwise to deale with you for one of your licenses payinge and givinge you Content for the same, which we wishe you to doe the rather for oure sakes and you shall fynd us reddie to pleasure you, wherein we maye And soe not doubtinge of your furtherance hearin we commyt you to the Almightye from the wyne office in Marke Lane this xxijth of June (1603).

Your verye Lovinge frende

Ar Ingram
James Colly

To our verye Lovinge frendes
Mr William Ives and Mr George
Rooe at Leicester.

VII. Dismissal from the Forty-eight

Hall Book III, p. 251. [July 4, 1603.] Memorandum that uppon Mondaie the iiijth daie of Julie [1603] Mr Ellis Maior of this Burrowe of Leicester, Released Henrie Pallmer of and from the compayne of the xlviijth (who (latelye) before, hee had Appoynted to be one of that Companye) for that his Master, Mr Francis Presgrave (notorie and Regester for the Archdeaconrie of Leicester) tolde Mr Maior, if he wolde not release him, from being of that companye, then he muste and wolde discharge him of his service and office he holdeth under the said Francis, and wolde reteyne somme other to supplie his place. and further said that the Bishoppe of Lincolne, (at his beinge at

Leicester to meeete the Queenes Maiestie was greatelie offended with him, for that the said henrye did not then attend in the Bishoppes Lyverie, which Cowses moved Mr Maior to release the saide Henrye from beinge of the said Companye and francis Churchman put in his place.

[Notice p. 268, Feb. 20, 1603/4, Henry Palmer made one of the xlviij.]

VIII. *Meeting of the Twenty-four*

Hall Papers III, No. 397. [Dec. 2, 1603.] This meeting is concernynge the choyce of A Recorder for that it hathe pleased God to take to his mercye Mr John Stanford our late Recorder [etc].

At this meeting was a Letter openly Read, sent from the Right honorable the Earle of Huntingdon, on the behalfe of one Mr Cheney to be our Recorder, whereupon (for that there was not nowe a suffycyent nomber of the bretherne assembled and for that the said Mr Cheney is A gentleman unknowne to them) it is therefore agreed to putt over there consents untill Wednesdaye next by IX of the clocke in the forenoon.

IX. *Meeting of the Twenty-four*

Hall Papers III, No. 401. [Dec. 7, 1603.] This meeting was concernyinge the choyce of A Recorder. And for that the Companye now assembled desire a longer tyme to be advised it ys therefore agreed to meeete agayne for that Cawse uppon Wednesdaye next by one of the clocke in thafternoon.

X. *Letter from the Earl of Huntingdon*

Hall Papers III, No. 404. [Dec. 8, 1603.] After my harty Comendacions. Whereas I lately directed my letters unto you for the obteyninge your Consente for the electinge Mr Christopher Chenye to be your Recorder, A man whome I hould upon good informacone to be vearye suffycient to dischardge the place otherwise I would not have desyred on his behalf. Sythence as I am gyven to understand there hathe bene somme staye made of your Eleccone of hym, by some of the younger sorte of your Corporacone, if there be iuste cause for the same, I reste the better sattisfyed (if not) then I desyre you all agayne the rather for my sake (freely to elect hym) for the which you shall fynde me allwayes as heretofore readye to requyte it wherein it maye lie in me. And also I desyre you that if you intend not to

sattisfy my request, that you would acquaynte me whome you intend to chuse for your Recorder before you elect hym. And so I leave you to the proteccion of Thalmyghtye Donnington this viijth of december 1603.

Your loving friende

George Huntingdon.

[Hall Papers III, No. 407. [Dec. 14, 1603.] Meeting of the xxij. Records election of M^r Sergeant Nicols by 15 votes to 8. Deputation was sent to interview Huntingdon on the subject. It was composed of five members, four of whom had voted for M^r Nicols. M^r Marshall represented those who voted for Cheney, namely Hunter, Norrice, Heyrick, Morton and Ellys, i.e. the same who signed the letter to Julius Caesar relating to Chippingdale's lease. M^r Manbye, M^r Chamberlyn and M^r Marshall were their other supporters.]

XI. *Letter from Thomas Russell*

Hall Papers III, No. 418. [Dec. 28, 1603.] Also I humbly requeste that I may have the dwelling howse for my selufe to dwell in and the viij yeard land theare unto belonging els the house and the other 8 yard land, but yf it be so yt you purpose to inclose I pray you let me be one of the thre that shall Joyne for the rest of the land yt shalbe devyded.

XII. *Meeting of Mayor and the Twenty-four*

Hall Papers III, No. 427. [Jan. 17, 1603/4.] The cause of this meetinge is concerninge the howsse which is suspected for the sicknes Item yt is now agreed, that towards the charges of the keepinge in of the people in the said suspected howsse (which howsse is in the Northe gate in thoccupacion of John Turner,) the xxiiijth shall give weeklye iiijd. a peece and the xlviijth shall paye ij*d.* a peece weekelye. And the first payment to be and beggin on Mondaye next.

XIII. *Order from Privy Council*

Hall Papers III, No. 466. [Feb. 28, 1603/4.] Whereas the Kings most excellent Majestie is given to understand that the granting of Lycence to his lovinge subiects ** to sell wynes in everie the Citties, Boroughs Townes Corporate and markett townes within his said Realme ** ys very necessarye and requisite as withoute which there can be no utteringe or sellinge of wynes by retayle within his highness said Realme and domynyon by reason of a statute lawe made the VIIth yere of the

raigne of King Edward the VIth. ** And whereas it appeareth to his Majestie and the Lords of his most honourable privie Counsell, that it is not onlye honorable and gracious for hym to contynewe the grauntinge of suche Lycences but neccessarie and profitable to his said subiects the Vynteners and to the Marchants Adventurers for wynes, and not prejudicall to the rest of his loving subiects. ** To the intent therefore that suche of his Majesties Lovinge subiects (which of late meerely mystakinge the meanyng of the Late proclamacion published agaynst Monopolies, and other unlawfull graunts) supposinge thereby that libertie was given unto all men to sell wynes withoute restraint, may understand that it was no part of his highnes meanyng nor of his said counsels. But that the said order heretofore used for grauntinge of the saide lycences shoulde have contynewance accordinglye and that suche of his said subiects as by color of the said proclamacion have presumed to sell wynes without lycence may be restrayned, which otherwise would turne to the greate preuidice, and hinderance of the Vynteners alreaddi lycenced and appoynted yt is his Majesties expresse will and commanndement, that all suche persons whatsoeuer as be not lycensed to sell wynes, eyther under the greate seale of England, or the seale of the said Sir Walter Ralegh knight shall presentlye forbear and surcease theire further drawinge and sellinge of wynes as they tender his highnes commanndement and pleasure, and will avoyde the penaltye of the lawe in that case provided. And that all others lycenced as aforesaid shall forthwith make theire repaire as convenientlye as they maie to John Shelberie gent his Majesties officer in that behalfe appoynted at his house over agaynst Durham place neere Charinge Crosse in Middlesex (as they were wont) to whom they are to pay all suche arreragies as be alreadie due for and uppon theire said lycences, and further to receave suche order and directions concernyng the Confirmacion of theire said lycences and graunts as shalbe then thought fytt, by the Lord High treasurer of England, and the under treasurer of his highnes Exchequer or one of them, for it is his Majesties expresse pleasure that the present Vynteners shall have all favor and prefarment in that behalfe before any other whatsoeuer if [they] seeke the same in convenient tyme. ** Theise are therefore in his Majesties name to require you, that in your several divisions you cause this his pleasure to be declared and made knowne accordingly, as well within liberties as without; And so wee bid you hartelie farewell. At the court this last of Feb: 1603[4].

To all Maiores Shirriffs Bayliffs Justices of Peace and other his Majesties lovinge Subiects to whom it may appertayne.

XIV. *Chamberlains' Accounts*

[1602-3.] *Rents of Assise, and Rents att will etc.* In primis Receyved of wydowe Crofte for the rent of the sheepe pennes per annum ixli. vis. viiid.

Item received of John Fane, the Schole Master, for the howsse, neire the schoole howsse, in his occupacion at will, Rente per annum xxvis. viiid. *Item* receyved of the heires of Gaddesbye in Rent of Assise out of certen Lande in the North Gate, Late Gaddisbies Land per annum—xxid. *Item* receyved of Robert Pilkington gent for twoe Leyes in the horsfayor, whiche he (emongest other Leys theire) holdithe by indenture, per annum iiis. *Item* receyved of Thomas Pestell for the Chambers over the Easte gate in his occupacion by indenture vis. viiid. *Item* receyved of Anthonye Webster for a wyndowe opening into the east gate, iiiid. *Item* receyved of Mr Edwarde Newcome Bellfounder, for the shreadinge of the willowes in the cewe ley, vis. viiid. *Item* receyved of Mr Roberte Gyllott for the Rent of the Butt Close in his occupacion by indenture, viiis. *Item* receyved of Mr William Rowes for A Cose [*sic*] in Barkeby Lane, Late Gaddisbies Lande in his occupacion by indenture xvis. *Item* receyved of Thomas Johnson Laborer, for A howsse with thappurtenances in the neyther ende of Bellgrave gate in his occupacion by indenture xiis. *Item* receyved of John Myddleton of Exton in the Countie of Rutland, for A howsse and backside neire the west gate by indenture vs. *Item* receyved of Thomas Pare for the Chambers over the west gate by indenture iiis. id. *Item* receyved of John Wales for a gardyn in Senvye gate by indenture iis. vid. *Item* receyved of John Awsitor Carpenter for the Chambers over the Northe gate by indenture per annum iis. viiid.

Item receyved of John Adcocke butcher, for a peece of grounde in St Nicholas parishe, by indenture per annum vis. viiid.

Item of Richard Clarke Tanner for a tenement in the Northe gate by indenture late in the occupacion of Richard Sympson per an: xs.

Item of Richard Smythe tanner, for a tenement in the northe gate by indenture, per annum xs.

Item of John Rodes for a peece of grounde in the northe gate, late in the occupation of John Walker, and sometyme one Cuthberte Potts lande per annum iis.

Item of John Wyarr for a tenement in the northe gate by indenture per annum viiis.

Item receyved of Mr Thomas Chapman for a tenement in the

northe gate at the northe bridge end, late in the occupacion of Jeffrye Whalten by indenture per annum xvis.

Item receyved of Richard Robartts tanner for a howsse at the Northe bridge ende and on the east side thereof, Late in the occupacion of widow Deacon deceased by indenture per annum vs.

Item of Peter Harrison for the chamber over the Sowthe gate taken by indenture per annum vs.

Item receyved of Robertt Heyrycke glover, for a peece of grounde, called the waterlagge neire the blackfreers, soulde in fee farme per annum vis. viiid.

Item of the said Robertt Heyricke for the easement of a chymney throwghe the westgate oute of the howsse therunto adjoyninge late in the occupacion of John Walker mylner deceased, per annum iiiid.

Item of Thomas Overend Chandler for a peece of grounde neire the Butt Close, per annum iiiid.

Chiefe Rents at Michaellmas onlye.

Item of Robertt Robards for a chiefe rente issuinge oute of a close in the late parishe of S. Peter, called Taylors Close per annum xiid.

Item of Mr Bonnett for a chiefe rente due oute of a howsse neire the highe Crosse called Wynterscalls howsse, per annum vid.

Summa xvili. xis. vid.

Other rents in the Categorie.

Item receyved of Roger Pawlmer for lande meadowe and pasture in Gylmorton sometyme one John Spriggs lande per annum iiis. iiiid.

Item receyved of Thomas Morton, oute of the lands and tenements sometyme one Nicholas Mortons in Mutche Ashbye per annum vid.

Item receyved of William Bright of Scraptofte oute of the lands and tenements of one John Masons theire, Late one Thomas Symkyns and sometyme on Thomas Tayllors of Wheston, per annum vid.

Summa iiis. iiiid.

Rents of the Graunge, of that moiety, in the occupacion of the Maior Bayliffe and Burgesses of the Burrowe of Leicester, And for the Tayllors farme bought of Mr Wightman, vicz.

Item receyved of Thomas Russell, Anthonye Hutchyn, and Edmund Abney, for two parts of oure Moietie or halfe parte of the Graunge xxvili. whiche xxvili. they are appoynted yerelye to paye to Mr Sacheverell oure Preacher in parte of payment of his yearelye Sallorye of xxxli.—xxvili.

Item receyved of Mr John Mabbes for a fourthe parte of our said Moietie or halfe parte of the said Graunge per annum—xiiiiii., whereof

he is to paye yearelye to our said Preacher—xls., to make uppe the said xxviiii*l.*—xxx*l.* in full payment of his said yearelye Sallarye of xxx*l.* xiiii*l.*

Item receyved of Mr Robertt Pilkington for one other fourthe parte of our said moiety or halfe parte of the said Graunge, And for the farme and land Lately purchased of Mr William Wightman called Tayllors farme, And for certen Lande in the Sowthe feelds of Leicester called the Towne obit Lande, (whiche ys—iii*s.* per annum) for all together per annum xx*l.*

Item receyved of John Nurce Milner for oure parte or moietye of the mylnes parcell of the Graunge per annum iiiii*l.* ii*s.* iiiid.

Item receyved of John Johnson Laborer for oure parte or moietye of the howsse, called the Milne howsse nowe the Signe of the Bull in the Sowthe gate, parcell of the said Graunge per annum xs.

Item receyved of George Somerfilde of Kyrbye Muxloe yeoman, for a close in the frithe neire unto Leicester forrest, parcell of the said Graunge per annum x*l.*

Item receyved of Thomas Nurce and John Nurce for the wynde milne in the Sowthe fields bought of Mr William Wightman, per annum xxxii*s.* iiiid.

Payments. (Total £78. 6*s.* 8*d.*)

Gifts of Wyne Rewards and other things.

Item paid for a bottell of Sacke sentto Mr Belgrave ijs.

Item paid for wyne and suger, sentto the Earle of Huntingdon for a new yeaeres gyfte vicz vi gallons of muskedyn xxvii*l.* viii gallons of sacke xxxi*l.* Ten pounds and a halfe of suger—xvi*l.* vjd. and for the twoe Rundletts iii*l.* in the wholl iiiij*l.* js. vjd.

Item the xxiiith of Marche pd for wyne and suger and bancketinge stuffe given to Sir John Graye and other gentlemen at the Angel in Leicester comnyngre poste from the Courte vjs.

Item the xxiiith of Marche pd for a pottell of burnte Sacke given to the Justices and Maiors Bretherne at the openinge of the Councells Letters ijs.

Item of Sayturdaye the xxvith of Marche pd for one gallon and one quarter of Sacke, ii gallons of clarett and iij li of suger given to the Sheriffe and Justices of Peace and gentlemen of this countye of Leicester, Mr Mayor and his bretherne then dynynge with them at the Sheriffs howsse After the proclaymyng of the dissolucion of the Queens Majestie And the proclaymyng of James the Sixt Kinge of Scotts, Kinge of England France and Ireland xvs. iiijd.

Item upon Sayturdaye the second daye of Aprill, given to the said Lord Hastings, Sheriffe and Justices of the Countye of Leycester and Mayors Bretherne, uppon the seconde proclaymyng of the said James the Sixt [etc] i gallon of Sacke, iii gallons of clarett and iiij li of suger xvij. Sir Henrye Hastings Knight sonne of the Earle of Huntingdon one gallon of clarett wyne and suger iiiij.

Item the xxiiith daye of June, given to the Ladye Elizabeths Grace, daughter to the Kings Majestie, at her then beinge att Leycester att Mr Pilkingtons howsse, ii gallons of clarett wyne ii gallons of white wyne, one gallon and one quarte of Renyshe wyne, and one suger lose of ix li and ten ownces xxxiiis. ixd.

Item the said xxiiith of June, pd for one gallon and a halfe of Renyshe wyne, ii gallons of clarett and ii gallons whyte wyne, and iii li of suger geven to the Earle of Shrewsburye att his then beinge att Leycester lyng at Sir Henrye Beaumonts howsse in the Newarke, his honor attendinge of the Queenes Maiestye, beinge then in Leicester xxis. viiid.

Item the said xxiiith daye of June given to the Queene at her then comminge to Leicester from Ashbye oute of Scotland, a Silver standinge cuppe with a kover all Gilte, wayinge xxxix oz att vis. xd. the oz which comes to xiiii. vi. iiiid.

Item then given to the younge Prince, the Kings sonne, An other standinge Sylver cuppe with a kover all Gilte, wayinge xxix oz halfe an oz Att vis. viiid. the ounce which comes to ixli. xvis. [sic].

Item pd for the charge of Roger Halfytt, beinge sent to London for the ii cups geven to the Queen and Prince xxv. vid.

Item at the Queenes beinge at Leycester, given to the Kings Majesties officers attendinge upon the Queenes Majestie the Prince and Princess which they claymed for theire fee as followeth, vicz. to the Gentleman Usher xls. To the Groome of the Chamber xxs. To the yeoman usher xxs. To the yeoman of the Stirroppe xxs. To the Litterman xxs. To the Cotcheman xxs. To the footeman xxs. To the Porter xs. To the herbyngers xxs. To the trumpitters xls. (Total) xi. x. x.

Item the same tyme given to the Ladye Elizabeths Grace, her officers vicz:—To the footeman vs. To the Taster vis.

Item pd to William Myddleton for fetchinge of Beddinge from Ellmysthorppe ageynst the Ladye Elizabeths Grace commynge to Leicester, And for the carrynge of the same backe ageyne. viiis.

Item pd to John Lawnder, for the use of pewter borrowed of hym, att the Queenes beinge at Leicester, for her Majesties use. vs.

Item given to one other of the Kings Majesties officers called the

Queenes waye maker, for his fee Rydinge abrode, to see the highe was [sic] (in her Majesties travell) to be made levell xiiis. iiiid.

Item pd for xi lincks, used at the Queenes being att Leycester vs. vid.

Item pd for the charge of Roger Halfitt, beinge sent after the Queenes officers abowte lynnyns and pewter that was myssinge, which was borrowed for the Queenes use at her beinge at Leycester iiiis.

Item given to a poore man, that had his horsse taken by the Queenes officers withoute a payment xiid.

Item pd for drawinge the Townes Armes upon the ii cuppes given to the Queene & Prince iiis. iiiid.

[There were also payments for wine and gifts to great persons visiting Leicester and to various companies of Players, viz.]

Dec. 12 Earl of Shrewsbury; Jan. 11 Earls of Bedford and Pembroke and the Lord Governor of Flushing; April 24 Scottish Gentlemen; April 24 and 26 Earl of Shrewsbury and "in wynter" Earl of Cumberland.

Companies of Players. Earl of Worcester's and the Lord Admiral's 10/- each.]

Reparacions.

Item pd for the charge of the Cucke Stoole, the Carte and the Stocks, and for mendinge the wyndowes at the olde hall xxxiijs. viijd.

Item pd for the carriage of the Cucke Stoole to the West bridge iiid.

Item pd to the Masons and Laborers for gettinge sand and gravell and stonnes and for pavinge the streets and for lyme agaynst the Queenes commynge to Leycester vjli. xis. iiijd.

Item pd to George Longley for newe dressinge the Kings Armes, sett upon the Town gates and for paynetinge the walls of the East Gate ageynst the Queenes commynge xls. vid.

Item pd to Leppington for washinge and layinge the West Gate in Cullors iijs. vjd.

[Receipts _____]

Payments £363. 10. 9.]

XV. Meeting of Mayor, Recorder and the Twenty-four

Hall Papers III, No. 463. [April 8, 1604.] The Charter to be renewed and the defects to be amended by Councell and if there shalbe anythinge of newe added thereunto, then the same to be partyculerly set downe and if there be anythinge therein mysliked to name particulerly what it is.

To make a suite to ye Kinge for the fee farm of the Granne.

[There was another meeting of the xxiv on May 7th at which the same persons were present except for M^r Recorder. The resolution concerning the Grange was formally passed then.]

XVI. *Calendar of loose papers relating to renewal of Charter and question of Bishop's Fee*

1. Lord Huntingdon's exceptions.

Press 24. 5. 1. Petition of Lord Huntingdon against Charter with note stating that King had stayed the passing of the great seal and directed the Lord Chancellor and the Chancellor of Duchy to consider the question.

Press 22. 18. 49. Short summary of Lord Huntingdon's exceptions with Leicester's answer:

(a) Objections to what had been granted in Eliz. Charter—grant of Newarke Grange. Privileges diminishing liberties of honour. Trade privilege “offensive and hurtefull to the countie of Leicester as it was used.” Derogation of privilege of King’s “Portmote Courte.” Punishment of assize of bread etc. prejudicial to King’s “Antient Leete and his Maiesties Backhouses in Leicester.”

(b) Objections to new Charter. Takes away jurisdiction of “Portmote Courte,” cuts borough from the honour and allows government of borough and disposition of offices to be in hands of townsmen. It will hinder administration of Justice. Kings profits will be neglected. “Yt maketh them seem wearie to perform there Auntient duties to the Honor.”

Leicester's answer. Fee farm of Newark not granted in Charter. It is held on condition of (a) maintenance of Preacher, (b) “relief of our poore” and (c) “reedifyng and repayringe of a greate number of Tenements beinge the greatest parte of the saide fee farme.” They hold Newark for 31 years only. The liberties of the Honour will not be impaired. “Felmongers being A Speciall meanes for tradinge in our newe woolle markitt, and our owne muche decayed, wee endeavoured by that branch to procure some of better abillitie to supplie that want, but perceivinge the same offensive; wee surceased, and in this Charter admit tradinge with us as of auncyent time the have hadd.”

King's Portmote is enlarged. Justices of Peace in Leicester have had power to punish the breaking of the Assize since Ed. IV's time. Profits answered to Crown.

New Charter. Mayor's oath at Castle binds whole Corporation to the Honour. Nomination of officers makes them more able to perform their service.

King's Justice will be strengthened.

Lord Huntingdon's exceptions (cont.).

Press 22. 18 (very much the same as Press 22. 18. 49).

“They have in their Last Charter a graunt or privilege that none shall buy or sell within their towne but freemen, whereby they have bred much tumult in their indiscreet and intemperate use of that Libertie whereby suits in the Starre Chamber have growne betweene them and the Country adioyning and much dislike of the best sort of the gent in the Cuntrie.”

“They have the Bishoppes fee which we leave to Sir Henry Harrington to defend.”

“The exemption of all forrenors to buy and sell by retaile any merchandize or wares is Likewise in this patent.”

[Then come various exceptions almost exactly similar to those in Thompson, pp. 330-31.]

“The Maior of Leicester when he is to take his oath is to come to the Castle being without the Libertie and is to receave the same of the Kinges Steward of the said Honor, yett of Late years they have some of the Townsmen of the Honor to

came to the towne hall to geve them their oath so willing they have bene to withdraw their duties.

The Maior at the time of the Awditt ought to come and present an arrowe or Arrowes to the Auditor in regard of their service, but of late they have sent them which sheweth how weary they are of their service.

The Maior when he goeth to take his oth at the Castle ought at a stone in the Lane leading from the towne to the Castle to putt down his mace and the Bayliffe of the honor with a white Rodd in his hand is fram [sic] that stone to come before the Maior to the Castle, but for divers past yeares the Maiors have presumed to Carry their mace their and into divers of the Kings liberties there."

[Objects to grants with regard to administration of justice and declares that it will not be well administered.]

"If the towne were assured at all times to have such a gentleman to their Recorder as now they have (who for Learning wisdome and integritie is to good to continue being with them) and that Justice might be administered by his direccion there is no doubt of the true execucion of Justice in that towne.

But in regard of his remote dwelling, and that the Maior for the time being may choose officers according to his owne humor or affecion and howe easie it is for men of trade without Judgment of Lawe to fall to affecions and howe often their affecions be supplied with men of small understanding that exercise the places of Justice under them by theire owne Choise it is common in experiens.

They shall nowe by this graunt of their new charter be utterlie exempted from the Courte of the Dutchy of Lancaster which was alwaises an aid to the Inhabitants both for matters of Controversie between partie and partie, for misdemeanors of officers whereby the Inhabitants were wronged nowe all Complaints must come before the Maior, and all must be left to his discretion and willingness to doe Justice.

Offences will not nowe be so iustlie and dewly punished as heretofore they have bene for the Maiors are commonly some Inholders, Tanners, Butchers, Bakers Bruars Smithes and Such Like which most * * * be offendors and howe remisse theis kind wilbe to inflict punishment upon them that offend of their own trades especially when they shall have noe Controller we Leave to your Judgment.

That they have not executed Justice heretofore nor Carried themselves in a dewe course the order in the Starr Chamber will manifest."

[The King's profits will suffer.]

"Although fines and profittes of Courtes are to be accompted for by them to the King according to their Charter yett when the Auditor nor Officers of the Dutchy can Controll their proceedings but must take their accomptes only, and when the Steward is not of the Kinges graunt nor removeable but permanent to the towne of Leicester nor in any feare to be removed howe farre it will make them to presume against the Kinges profittes it may easilie be ymaged.

Besides the Maiors of Leicester have of Late Sworne John Wilne the Kinges Baylyfe and Thomas Ward the Kinges Steward to be of their foure and twenty Chiefe Burgesses thereby to drawe them to their minds and to beare with their offences which they so did when the King had theis offices to dispose when they have in their owne handes to dispose they will serve their owne turnes and not regard the Kings proffittes."

2. *Sir Henry Harrington's exceptions.*

Press 22. 18. 15.

(1) Grant of Bishop's fee. (2) The parish of S. Margaret's extends 6 miles "about" Leicester and the borough will swallow up neighbouring townships.

(3) Skilled workmen in Bishop's fee will suffer because trade regulations of borough will force them to buy their freedom or be ruined. (4) Mayor and Burgesses will appoint all officers and will govern all inhabitants including a number of gentlemen living in the district. (5) The inhabitants will have to pay heavier subsidies. The burden of taxation has forced men to leave the borough and live outside it. (6) Fifteenths will be paid to Borough Collectors. (7) Mayor's Leet will conflict with Sir Henry's Leet. (8) Mayor's Leet will conflict with Court Baron.

Press 22. 18. 3.

"The inhabitants [of the Bishop's Fee] not free are Commonly extreamely ceased [assessed] by the Corporacion in their Subsidies and other payments for the ease of the Townsmen."

"They shall be restrayned to sett any man on work be he never soe skyllfull in his Trade excepte he be free of the Corporacion noe not privately in their houses."

[Conflict between Town and Sir Henry—two sets of Constables and Thirdbores.]

"Sir Henryes Tennants of the Bishops fee have Common for their Cattell uppon Sir Henryes Landes and in his medowes after the Cropp of hey is taken awaye, and in other feildes at Severall tymes. Yf that parte be made parcell of the Corporacion most of the Corporacion in tyme will challeng Common heare for they alleadge now that the houses of the Corporacion be intermingled with the houses of Sir Henryes Mannor which argueth that in tyme it will not be knowne how many houses have Common and how many not. Whereby Sir Henrye shalbe eaten out of his Land to his greate preuidice and the Undoeing of his Tennants. And it is already geven out by some of the Corporacion that if this Charter prevayle they will intercommon both with thnhabitants neare Leicester in Sir Henryes Severall groundes as his Tennants doe, and within the feilds of Knighton shortly after.

There is many of Sir Henryes Tennants that be free men and men of manuall trades which inhabiting within this mannor do sett men of [on?] worke not free as Jurneymen and such others that be verry skillfull in their occupacions which if that mannor shoulde be incorporate to the Towne should turne away their workemen because of the order of the Corporacion that noe free men shall sett a forreyner a worke whereby their Trades will decay; and by consequence the mannor much Dispeopled in tyme which is an especeall marke, the Corporacion shooteth at.

Many freemen and others inhabiting in the Towne doe lett their shops belonging to their houses to Trades men not free of the Towne to their great proffitt, which if the mannor be incorporated those Tradesmen shalbe expelled and their shops vacant to the hindrance of their proffitt whereby Sir Henryes proffitt shall decay in Decrase of his Tennants."

[Leicester answered these exceptions (see below) and Sir Henry replied to the answer.]

He declared he had there "above four and twentie Tenantes of demesne by Lease besides manie more freeholders" (note in margin "not in respect of their houses or dwellings").

[With regard to better government being obtained if jurisdiction of borough was extended.]

"There dwelleth·within a myle of S. Margarettes parishe Sir Henrie Hastings Sir George Belgrave Sir Thomas Beamonde and docter Chippingdale Justices of the Peace whose discretion in government is equall with Mr Maior.

The subsidies Commonlie rise aboute one quantity in the Corporacion and it is to bee proved that Stranngers dwelling therein are moste hardlie taxed by the Corporacion for the ease of themselves."

Leicester's answer to Sir H. Harrington.

Press 22. 18. 13.

1. The Corporation is enlarged no further than to include "those houses Landes and Tenements commonly called the Bishopps fee in the parish of S. Margarettes." King's fines as well paid in town as county. Inhabitants mostly tradesmen and fit to come under town government. 2. "The fifteen of the Bishopps' Fee called the Subburbs" is included in the Charter. Knighton pays a separate fifteen and is not included. 3. Constables to be under Mayor's authority. 4. All tradesmen of Bishop's Fee have always been under the jurisdiction of Leicester "for freedom and bearinge of offices and other services within the Corporacion *** as Maiors Aldermen etc." Many of inhabitants are free men (i.e. 22 out of 32) and the others are nearly all husbandmen and labourers. 5. Deny that any man has been obliged to move from the borough to avoid cost of living there. 6. Subsidies are equally taxed in Corporations as in Counties—in fact better, as representatives of County serve with town Commissioners and there is no admixture in County. 7. "The orders of the Towne doeth not restrayne to sett men on work in their private houses." 8. No man will be bound to 2 Leets. Mayor cannot order them to do things against law. 9. Sir Henry has not held 3 weeks Court for plea "between partie and partie within the memorie of man but the Inhabitants their have been impleaded either in Towne Courte or in the Countye Courte." 10. Bishop's Fee is suited for trading and it is coming more and more within the jurisdiction of the borough. 11. Election of officers will be in Court Leet and Court Baron as before. 12. "The wholl parische of Sant Margarettes have equall rights of Common with the Inhabitants in the Bishopps fee and for distinction of the Bishopps fee howses from Leicester howses their service to the Leete and Courte Baron will sufficientlie from tyme to tyme specify them." 13. Deny that the Corporation has a rule that no free man shall set a foreigner to work. 14. Shops in Bishop's Fee will increase in value "in respecte of the freedome of the towne." Recounts position of Bishop's Fee from ancient time re taxes for Guild etc.

Press 22. 18. 5 a almost same as above. Complains of infrequency of Sir Henry's Court. Leicester Court is held once a week. There is no market in the Bishop's Fee and tradesmen there have always been under the Corporation for freedom of trading.

Press 22. 18. 6.

The inhabitants of the Bishop's Fee have always been under the jurisdiction of the Corporation for freedom.

"And many of the now Inhabitants within the same as use anye tradinge beinge aboute some xvij howse holders are att this present freemen and beare like offices as occasion serveth. And all their eldest sonnes are free for A pottell of wyne, and the Seconde for vs, and the thirde for xs. And by this freedom may keepe in our towne pasture Two mulche beastes and have much priviledge and freedome in trading all England over."

Various other papers re Bishop's Fee.

Press 24. 5. 6.

Earl of Huntingdon argued that "forreiners are thereby exempted from trading in the Borough."

"The exemption of forreine buyers and sellers is but in suche sorte as of Auncynt tymes within the Borrough hath beene accustomed viz. That forrein Tradesmen viz. Mercers, Drapers, Glovers and suche like have yeerelie paide in respecte of their generale commerce and tradinge to the freemen of the Borough of the same trade respectivelie certen silver called Brotherhoode monie accordinge to the qualitie of their trade some more some lesse non above ijs. vjd. per annum."

The Earl of Huntingdon was High Steward of the Duchy of Lancaster. He opposed the proposal that the Mayor, Bailiffs, etc. should have power to nominate the Steward or Town Clerk of the Borough.

"The Stewardshippe of the Honor and the Stewardshippe or Town Clarkeshippe of the Borowe are severall and distincke offices, and have severall fees and allowances and have beene enjoyed by severall patentes. The Stewarde of the Courte of pleas of the honor is Judge. But in the Courte of the Borough the Maior and Burgesses have been Judges and the Steward but their Clarke."

Press 22. 18. 10.

Petition from Mayor, etc. asking for speedy settlement as to the charter about which they have been negotiating for more than a year. They sought in the Charter (a) to remedy a defect in Eliz. charter regarding the Bishop's Fee and (b) to secure "some further addition of liberties." The Charter was drawn up, the King's fine of xl*l*. was "taxed by your honor under your hand with all duties for the same satisfied. And whereas some defawlte had escaped the Examyner and your Suppliants thereby forced to cancel that seale to amende the same and comyng to renewe the seale staye was made by your honour to be satisfied concerning exceptions taken."

Press 22. 18. 7 a.

List of inhabitants of Bishop's Fee 1605. Thomas Allsopp, Sadler. Hugh Wattes, Bellfounder. William Cater, Mercer. Robert Browne, Chapman. William Callis, Tayllor. Reynolde Fawsitt, Sadler. Edward Fawne, Sadler. Christopher Hall, feilde baker. Andrewe Burstall, Smyth. Christopher Sutton, Shoomaker. Morris Powell, weyver. William Newton, Currier. John Newton, Chapman. John Barlowe, Tallor [Tayllor]. William Fowler, Mercer. Thomas Parker, Maulster. Thomas Overende, Chandler. Richarde Anables, Mercer. Gyles Harrison, Glover. William Byllinge, Shoomaker. John Bayllie, plowrighte. William Newton, Junior, Imbrotherer. 22.

Free men.

Thomas Hampton, Phizicion. Leonarde Dentt, husbondman. Ambrose Greene, Screvener. John Harrie, husbondman. William Cartwrighte, husbondman. William hobson, laborer. francis Vincent, Laborer. William Hartshorne, Laborer. Robertt Greene, husbondman. William Sturges, Laborer. 10.

Press 29. 9 (not numbered).

17 Feb. 1605/6. "The Contents of their Charter once under the greate Seale and the Kinges fyne and all other dewties payed and mistaken by the writer and overseene by the examiner and amended by the warrant and now opposed" viz.

(a) Alteration "for disposinge of their revenue by the Maior and Aldermen." The Mayor, Aldermen and 24 "of the eldest of the xlviij" substituted.

(b) "The grant of the Jurisdiction of governement of all houses Edifices mesuages landes tenements and hereditaments comonly called in Inglishe the Bishopps fee scituare lieing and beinge within the parishe of S^t Margarettes in or neare the said Burrowe of Leicester in the countie of Leicester and of his Maiesties subiects inhabitinge therein in as ample manner as in the auntient Burrowe with exclusion of forreyn Justice but in their defaultes except determinge of felonies and countefeytinge, clippinge washinge and other faultes of money."

(c) Grant of Court of Record to be held before the Mayor, Recorder and Aldermen or any three of them instead of before Mayor, Recorder, Bailiffs and Steward as in 41 Eliz.

(d) Recital and revocation of Bailiwick and Stewardship. The grant of right of nomination of Steward, Town Clerk, etc. Mayor's oath at Castle. Grant of power to Mayor to appoint deputy.

(e) "The grante of Restrainte of forreyne tradinge otherwise then of auntient heretofore hath been there approved used and accustomed The grant of certen markett dayes viz. Wednesday and Saturday Weekelie for the Woolle markett there.

Teste tam sub magno Sigillo Anglie quam sub Sigillo Ducat Lancas. xij die April Anno Regis Jacobi tertio et Scotie tricesimo octavo."

Press 22. 9. 13.

"The Abridgement of the differences betweene the olde and new Charter."
Feb. 17. 1605/6.

41. *Elizabeth*

- 11. Eleccion of Maior and his oath at the 12. Guildhall for his office.
- 31. Restraint of forrein tradinge other then in Grosse, or in tyme of Fayors without Lycence of the Corporacion.
- 31. Enlargement of Jurisdiction in the Bishoppes Fee in Burgo Leic., and in the parishes of Sct. Maries, St Leonard and Le Newarke in Burgo.

New Charter

- fo. 13. And nowe at the Castle of Leicester also for preservacion of the Auncyent liberties of the Duchy.
- fo. 16. Restrained to be but as of Auncyent tyme.
- fo. 5. Lymytacion of Jurisdiction onlie in the Bishoppes fee in vel prope Burgum Leicestr.

XVII. *Recital of facts relating to Bishop's Fee*

Hall Papers VI, No. 41. [No date.] 1. The Bishopps fee beinge parcell of the East Suburbs of Leicester and so call[ed according to] our auncient records lyinge iust without the East Gate of the towne and intermingled in many places with the residue of the East Suburbs of the same towne hath beene ancyently parcell and within the libertyes thereof and soe accounted and used. It was Allwayes taxed with the towne for the charges of the Burgesses of the parliament for the towne as well as for all other dutyes. It paid scott and lott with the towne. And the inhabitants thereof and tradesmen dwellinge therein had and enioyed the priviledges and freedom of the towne as other townsmen did. The Bishopps free men weare Maiors of the towne aswell as any of the residue of the townsmen and arrests and execucion of precepts from the Maior and the Maiors authoritie used there as in any other place of the towne in the tymes of H. 3. E. 1. E. 2. E. 3. and R. 2. and tyme out of mynde before.

And although in the troublesome tymes which after and of late ensued the Justices of peace of the Country incroached upon some parte of the liberties of the towne within the Bishopps fee in somme cases for peace and government yet the Maior hath ever tyme out of mynde used his authoritie there without interrupcion.

2. Then we said that our late Soveraigne Ladye Queene Eliz. in the 41th yeere of her raigne did by her letters Pattents amongst other things add the Bishopps fee to the auncient Liberties of ye towne of

Leicester and exempted it from the Country and by the said letters patters expressly prohibited the Justices of the Countrey to intermeddle there Sythence which tyme the Maior Bayliffs and Burgesses have exercysed the places of Justices of peace there and assessed subsidyes and used yt in all other respects as parte of the liberties of the towne as freely as they have done any other parte of the towne.

And this the then Queene might lawfully doe (without Act of Parliament or leave of the then Lord of the Bishopps fee) whoe holdeth a Courte Baron and Courte Leete therre and hath wayfes and strayes within the same because noe parte of the Lords inheritance or liberties, is graunted or impeached thereby but onely her Maties soveraigne power and authoritie of administracion of Justice by patent or Commission to the Maior And ye lorde of the Bishopps fee hath still his mannor and Royalty as he had to punish at his leetes such things as are punyshable or inquyrable in a Courte Leete and it is no more hurt to the Lord of the Bishopps fee then the Comission of Justices of peace is in the Countrey to other Lords Mannors or Leetes in the Cuntry.

3. Also the Kings Matie that nowe is in 2^o or 3^o of his raigne by his letters patters confirmed to the said Corporacion all the auncient liberties before that tyme graunted unto them or then or at any tyme before lawfully used or injoyed by them.

By every of which tytles the said corporacion is informed by theire Councell that they may iustly challenge the said Bishopps fee to be within theire lyberties and parcell of the said towne but a fortiori and without question by them all.

XVIII. *Petition for fee farm of Newark Grange*

Hall Papers III, No. 487. [No date.] To the Kings most excellent Majestie The poore of Leicesters humble peticion.

Maie yt please your Majestie out of your gracious clemencie and mercie to us the poore people of Leicester who are in nombre above fyve thousand to give us leave to be suitors to your Majestie.

That whereas the Maior and poore Commonaltie of Leicester are your Majesties tenants of Newarke grange for fiftie two yeares unexpired, holden of your highnes Dutchie of Lancaster By Rent of xxxili. vid. we humblie praie that your Majestie wilbe pleased to grant us the fee farm of the said graunge towards our releife in Maintenance of Trade and Misterie for our sustentacion, and your poore subiects maie be better inhabited to performe theire dutie to your Majestie, and shall ever praie that god maie Long blesse your Majestie over us.

XIX. Common Hall

Hall Book, p. 271. [May 2, 1604.] It is agreed that the Twentie nobles heretofore allowed unto M^r Ellis Late Maior (over and besides the olde fee) shall not bee allowed neither to him nor any other Maior hereafter. Any order heretofore to the Contrye notwithstandinge.

XX. Common Hall

Hall Book, p. 273. [June 15, 1604.] It is nowe ordered and agreed that whatsoever of eyther of the Companies maketh default of Commynge to the Common Hawles upon sommons or commynge dothe not comme at the hower Appoynted shall forfitt (being of the xxiiij^{ti})—vj*d*. A peece And of the xlviij^{ti}—iij*d*. A peece Allthough they comme Afterwards And they that comme not at all to paye the old fynes and non to come in their clokcs upon the paynes aforesaid.

XXI. The Frith Closes

Hall Book, p. 273. [July 27, 1604.] Memorandum that one Samuell Waade servant to Sir William Waade knight, one of the Clarkes to the Lordes of the Councell, togeither with one John Price servaunte to Davye Owyn one of the yeomen of the Kinges Maiesties Seller Tooke possession of the Closes in the frithe parcell of the Granges, and also of John Caters Closes parcell of the said frithe, for the use of the said Sir William Waade who hathe (as is said) taken the said Closes in fee farme.

XXII. Preparations for the visit of Duke Charles

Hall Papers III, No. 469. [Aug. 9, 1604.] Sir I ame to advertis you that one wednesday the xvth this instant Duke Charles the Kings Mate second sonne with my Lord of Fyvie Lord president of the Sessions in Skottland who hath charge of his grace entendeth to bee att Leicester, whear thaye mean to rest Thursday all day, and one fryday after dinner to goe forwards one theire Jornye, for which cause theise are in his maties name to requier you to make choyce of a sufficient house for the Lodginge of the Dukes grace with the Lord president, whearin there must bee xij bedds with all nessicaries for a kytchine, and that their bee iij hogshead of Beare layed in the same house for the which you shall have satisfaction, for pewter and Lininge his grace must bee furnished with from you, beefore his cominge their shalbee one sent for the makinge of provision, unto whom I would if hee find

it nedfull hee may have your assistance, thus not doutinge of your care hearin I byd you hartelie fare well.

From Worsop the ixth of August, 1604.

Your lovinge frend

John Crane

duke Charrolls the Kings second sonn Laye in Leicester on Wednesday the xvth of August and their stayd Thursday all daye and went from thence to dingley on fryday after dynner.

XXIII. Meeting of the Twenty-four

Hall Papers III, No. 520. [Aug. 19, 1604.] Att this metinge it was intended to have made choyse of twoe of this Companye to be in electeon for the office of the Maior Against S. Mathewes daye next Yet noe twoe agreed of nor appoynted But lefte of, to chuse one out of the hearde on S^t Mathewes daye next commynge.

XXIV. House of Correction

Hall Papers III, No. 532. [Sept. 27, 1604.] Whereas there ys an intencion in my self and the reste of the Justices of the peace withein this countye of Leicester to erecte a house of correcion accordinge to the lawe And for thatte we are willinge to have the same atte Leicester, where I am informed there ys a fytle place called Saynte Maryes close which ys belonginge to the same towne And forasmuch as wee have made choyse of this bearer henrye Cowper to bee master of the seid house Theise are therfore to request you that you would spare the seid place to this use and to make a lease thereof unto him for some reasonable terme, consideringe the rewyn and decaye of the thinge, the charge thatte the cuntreyre muste bee atte for reparacions of the same, and the necessitye of the worke whiche wee have in hande: In whiche doinge my self and the rest of the cuntreye shall thincke theymselves behouldinge unto you. And your Selves shall fynd some ease by the ereccion of soe good a wurke.

Bradgate the xxvijth of September 1604.

Youre frende

Henrye Graye.

XXV. Meeting of the Twenty-four

Hall Papers III, No. 538. [Oct. 3, 1604.] Md Hardymand Poole late servant to Thomas Cadman of Leycester Joyner, ys lisensed to departe from his said Master, and hath a pass porte accordinge to the Statute.

XXVI. *Common Hall*

Hall Book, p. 284. [Oct. 12, 1604.] Item it is now agreed that the Lease made in Mr Newcomes Mayraltye for the Graunge upon truste shalbe called in And be cancelled.

Also it is agreed that before the lettinge of the Graunge theire shalbe An inlargement made to the cowe pasture.

Also it is now agreed and ordered that non of the said Commissioners shalbe takers of anye thinge to be lett neither for them Selves or others, but by the Consent of A Common Hawle.

XXVII. *Papers relating to search for Papists*

Hall Papers III, No. 582. [Nov. 26, 1604.] Right Worshippe, after my verie hartie commendacions etc. with most hartye thancks for your greate paynes etc. Theise are to certifie you, that this present 26 of November I fownde A man (beinge a straunger) in an Alehouse in our Towne and suspectinge hym to be some spie, or Lewde fellowe cawsed hym to be stayed and brought with his fardell before me and others of the Justices to owr Towne hall to be examyned of whom I founde dyvers papisticall books, Picktures Crusyfixes Jett Rings and Currall beads, who upon his examination hathe confessed he is a Catholike, with many other things as by his examination dothe more at lardge Appye. A Copie whereof I have herein inclosed sent to your Worshipp my desyre therefore is you will have consideracion thereof, and to acquyent my Lorde Anderson therewith, or the Lords of the Councell, whether it shall seeme best to you. I have commytted hym to the gaole to be there safelye kept. I praye you lett me here from you thereof by this bearer my neybor Mr Nixe or some other with as muche speede as you maye and what I shall further doe therein And thus for this presente (in hast) I take my Leave. Commendinge your worshippe to thalmightye.

Your assured lovinge frend
Thomas Chettell, Mayor.

No. 587. [Nov. 29, 1604.] To the Earle of Huntingdon.

1. A memorall of A Christian Lief
 2. A manuall of prayers
 3. The Contempt of the world
 4. A manuall of prayers
- xvij gilded Picktures
xvj printed picktures.

No. 704. [Nov. 1604.] [Examination of Richard Crosland quite illegible in many parts. The following are some extracts taken from it. Crosland confessed he got the books and pictures that were found in his possession from one Edward Cavell.]

A merchant whose name is as he thincketh [Edward] Cavell, who is as he also thincketh an English Merchant dwellinge in London and beinge demanded wheare the said Edward Cavell doth lye sa[ith he] can not tell but told this examynate he laye some tyme in one place and some tyme [another] but most Commonlye, with the Spanyshe ymbasseters. * * * Also beinge demanded what manner of man the said Edward Cavell ys A Lustie blacke man, about xl yeres of age. * * * Also he saythe he meant to have leaft all the said books and picktures, with [*illegible*] Skyner howsse whoe is a papist further this examyneth saythe he is A papist hym[*self*]. Md at this present and upon the said words accusinge hymselfe to be a papist was offered hym the othe of Supremacie but he refuzed [*illegible*]. Also beinge demanded if he were yesterdaye at the Churche (if [*illegible*]) saythe noe, neyther was at any Churche this ij yeres at the [*illegible*] to the Churche. * * * Also he saythe he was Reconsiled to God for his synnes [*illegible*] to believe as the Church of Rome doth believe by one he tooke to be a priest.

No. 588. [Nov. 1604.] [Letter in Huntingdon's hand but unsigned.]

Right honorable and our very good Lords Mr Thomas Chettle now Mayor of the Borough of Leicester beinge Carefull in the execucion of his office and makinge an extraordinary search within the said Borough for leude suspected or disordered persons, Chanced on Sonday night last beinge the 25th of this November to apprehend one Richard Crosland a papist a very Leude and bad fellow as by his examination doth apere unto us and about him divers books and pictures of sondrye fashin which he was travellinge abroad the Countyes here about to disperse to recusants as he affirmeth. To enlarge the Circumstances of his proceedings wold be to tedyous. I have rather thought good herewith to send unto your Lordshipps theexamynacion taken by the said Mayor of Crosland wherby yt shall the better apere unto your Lordships of his course of life the Mayor acquaintinge me herewith and perceyvinge by his informacion how dangerous a person the said Crosland ys have thought yt our fittest Course and best agreeinge with our Loyall dueties to our gracious soveraigne to acquaint your good Lordshipps herewith and know your Lordships further pleasure, wheather the said Crosland shall remayne here untill the assises, or be

forthwith sent upp to your Lordshipps for his better examynacion and tryall. We have not sent upp the books and pictures but rest upon your Lordshipps answeare for that we thought fitt the said books and pictures shold remayne in our hands to be either kept or sent with the partie.

XXVIII. Common Hall

Hall Papers III, No. 605. [Jan. 4, 1604/5.] Att this hawle and meetinge it is Agreed, that everye Alderman in his warde shall assist the Constable of his warde in gaytheringe uppe of suche taxes and payments as shalbe leyde within his warde. And if there remayne any unpayde in the Aldermans default in not assistinge his Constable, then he to paye the same of his owne purce.

XXIX. Common Hall

Hall Book, p. 287. [Jan. 10, 1604/5.] Mr Docter Chippingdale the daye and yeare above written At this Assemblie did offer for A Lease for xxij. yeares of Worshippes Graunge (except the Millnes, Beadehowsse Meadowes and frithe Closes and inlargement of the pasture having allowance of grownde), for grownde upon indifferent vewe xl*ii*. Rente per Annum withoute fyne Or xx*ii*. Rent per Annum, and fyne after the Rate of the other xx*ii*. abated. And more he said he wold not give.

Att which tyme theire was offred for the Like Lease thereof Cl*i*. fyne, And Lx*ii*. Rent per Annum And further then testified that An other wold give for the same Cxx*ii*. fyne and Lv*j**ii*. Rent per Annum by the Testimony of Mr Roberte Atton and others.

It was afterwardes at the said meetinge never the lesse Agreed in Respecte of the Kinges Maiesties said Letters, to offer Mr Doctor Chippingdale A Lease thereof for xxij yeares, for (Cl*i*) fyne. A fyftie powndes rent per Annum.

XXX. Common Hall

Hall Book, p. 287. [Jan. 18, 1604/5.] Also att this Assemblie it was agreed, that what towns man or other shall from henceforthe put into the Cowe pasture, or into the Sowthe feeldes Any moe Beastes or Sheepe than they ought, either by theire freedom or otherwise shall forfitt to the chamber of the Towne for everye Beaste ijs. And the fermers of the Graunge for everye sheepe vjd. And that non that keepe Teames (Except the fermers) shall putt theire draught horsses into the meadowes, or Sowthe feeldes of Leycester at any tyme in the yeare upon Payne of ijs. for everye horsse etc.

Also at this Common Hall it was Agreed to Admytt Mr Dockter

Chippingdale Tennant to that parte of the Graunge in his occupacion
(Except before at the laste Common hall excepted) for (C*li.*) fyne,
And (L*li.*) Rente per Annum, under suche Condicions and Covenants
As are set downe.

XXXI. Papers relating to murder of Mrs Clarke

Hall Papers III, No. 625. [Feb. 17, 1604/5.] Right honourable, oure
humble dueties Remembered etc. Whereas of late A murder and
Robbery hathe beene committed within our Burouge of Leicester,
by two Lewde fellowes, the one called Edward Bradshawe, and the
other Thomas Harrison (Staffordshire men), whoe by freshe suite
weare Apprehended and committed to Stafford Gaole, withoute Bayle
or Mayneprise Sithence which tyme the Lorde Stafford hathe Bayled
the said Bradshawe, as we are informed and certenly knowe And the
said Lord Stafford is nowe gone uppe to London, to procure A pardon
for the said Bradshawe. It maye there fore please your good Lordshipp,
that theire maye bee (by your honors good meanes) suche order taken
for the stayinge of his pardon, As to you shall seem best and Also
that watche maye bee Leyde for the Apprehencion of the said Brad-
shawe, because it is thought he will come to London, to the Lord
Stafford Lodging which this bearer can informe your Lordship of.
Also that it may please you to graunte your warrant for the Appre-
hencion of the said Bradshawe wheresover he shall be founde in
England, And thereupon to be conveyed to the Gaole of Leycester.
And thus beinge bold, wee humblye take our Leaves.

Leycester this xvijth daye of februarye (1604).

Your honors most humblye to Commande

W ^m Norice	James Ellys
Robert Heyricke	Hughe Hunter.
Edward Newcombe	

No. 633. [March 22, 1605/6.] Articles whereupon Harrison was
examyned by order from the Judge after he was condempned to dye.

1. What was given to the Lorde Stafforde, to Cotty, to the Gaoler,
or to anie other for Bradshawes Bayle.

No. 626. [March 26, 1605.] (Examination of Edward Bradshaw.)

The said Examineth beinge demanded what value of monye he and
Thomas Harrison tooke away from the howsse of one Mistress Clarke
Late of Leicester wydowe deceased saythe as he thinckethe if it were
in Sylver aboute v*li.* but if theire were golde he knowethe not then
he thincketh there was more.

No. 635. [March 25, 1606.] Our Assises holden at Leicester uppon Tuesdaie the xxvth of Marche (1606) before Sir Peter Warbarton Knighte Att which Assise Edwarde Bradshawe was executed for murtheringe Mistress Clarke; and Alice Grumboulde burned for the same murther.

[Other papers relating to this case: Hall Papers III, Nos. 623, 624, 628, 631, 634, 638, 656.]

XXXII. Sabbath Day regulations

Hall Papers III, No. 519. [1604?] It is this daye ordered, enacted, ordeined, and decreed by the Maior and Burgesses of the borough of Leicester that after the day of the date hereof noe person or persons (beinge freemen of the Borough) and using anie trade or occupacion, shall from hencefourth ute buy nor sell nor worke att anie within the sayde borough, or the libertie, or the precincts thereof, shall buy, or sell, any merchandise, wares, or goodes, or otherwise use his sayde trade, in, or upon anye Lords daye, otherwise called Sunday, or the Sabbath day within the sayde borough, libertie or precincts, or shall open any shopp, or warehouse to that intent, and that the partie offending being thereof convicted before the Maior of the sayde borough, and some of his brethren, for the time being, by such testimonie, and proofe, as the sayde Maior, and some of his brethren for the time being shall thinke sufficient shall for everie such offence contrarye to the true meaning of this ordinance for the first time he shall forfeit 3*s. 4d.*, and if he doe eftsoones offend, then for the 2 offence 6*s. 8d.*, and for the 3 offence 13*s. 4d.* and soe after for every offence 13*s. 4d.* And it is likewise ordeined by the Maior and Burgesses aforesayde, that after convictions of the sayd offences in manner and fourme aforesayde, it shall, and may be lawfull to, and for the sayde Maior for the time being, by himselfe, or by his officer to levie the said sommes of monye, and penaltyes, and everye of them, by distress, and sale of the offenders goods, and if there shall be any overplus of such sommes, after such sale, then the same to be delivered to the sayde offender, the one moitye of which sommes soe to be levied shall be given to the churchwardens and overseers of the poore of the parish, where the offender shall dwell, for the use of the pore of the same parish, and the other moitye to him that shall informe, and prosecute against the sayde offender. And it is further ordeined by the sayde Maior, and Burgesses, that everye person refusing to submit himself to the said ordinance shall be disfranchised.

XXXIII. *Extracts from Letters on Town Business, 1604-5*

Press 24. 5.

I. Letter from Pilkington re Tamworth's Case. May 3, 1604. An injunction will be sent down "which there will be no repugninge but to be yelded unto—untill the Towne become humble suytors to the Kinges Maiestie for confirmation of the Charter in the thinges that be good and for redresse and amendment of what by our councell shalbe thought mete." And this trouble has arisen "in the not havinge the Duchie Seale to the Letters Pattents."

II. Letter from Dethick re dispute between the Mayor and Dethick with M^r Smalley as to evidence of how the Court has been held. June 9, 1604.

III. Dethick advises that Chippindale shall be kindly dealt with as his influence is considerable and might be used for or against the Corporation.

IV. Letter from Dethick to M^r Chettell and M^r Chapman. June 16, 1604. "Your wives are bothe well, and have them commended to you Mistress Chettell sendith you M^r Chettell worde that your daughter is very well amended And Mistress Warde hathe sent to her husband A bended *viz.* for A token and wisheth hym to hie hym whom the which token is herein inclosed."

V. Letter from Hugh Hunter to M^r Chettell. June 16, 1604. "My very hartie Commendacions etc. * * I have also acquainted them with Sir Francis Hastings unkynd speaches towards our Corporacion who thinke very hardlye that he shoule oppose himselfe againt us in any thinge considering how well he was satisfied But we doubt not but you can geve him a reasonable answer to any thing he can obiect, for as I am enformed that which is by us to be performed is the fyndinge of a Preacher, the Releif of the poore and the settinge up of a Clothier ij of them are performed thother hereafter as we are able is to be performed, and whereas you heare that Sir William Wade hathe the fee farme of the frythes graunted him, M^r Robert Hericke sayeth that Sir Francis Hastings promised to free us from any incumbrance yt shoulde hereafter fall concerninge those Closes, whereof yf occasion serve you maye acqueynt him with Sir William Wade his graunte and see what he will saye therein."

VI. Letter from Dethick to M^r Chettell. Feb. 15, 1604/5. "Mistress Meyrys and daughter are in good healthe, all is well at Leycester, god be thancked but only yt greate mistchance of Mistress Clarkes deathe, I willed John Clarke to informe you thereof. he makes small hast, the theevs wilbe bayld before his Comynge for one of them is bayled all readye out of Stafford gaole his name is Edward Wright, they have confessed (as was yesternight informed M^r Norys and me) that they had 200*l.* in golde * * * God send you despatch of your busynes and shortlye whom. Your wife thinckes you longe, and told me yesterdaye at dynner she wold send you a letter to com whom, and let all Alone, and I answered her I wold send you another not to departe London afore you had fynished."

VII. Letter from M^r Norrice. Feb. 16, 1604/5. "Good M^r Maior * * * I do understand by Hughe Marshall, that you take it unkyndlye I never wryt to you, Sync your goinge to London, the cause was I never had any matter to wryte to you of, before the deathe of Mistress Clarke, which I willed John Clarke to com to you and to informe you thereof, and to will you to sett your hand to the Letter, I write to my Lorde Anderson for the Removinge of the felons from Stafford gaole, to Leycester. Att which tyme he was in suche hast of his Jorney and beinge late in the night, I thought him suffycyent to enform you thereof. We have byn as carefull in the Apprehencion of the felons as wee colde bee and upon freshe suite the ij principall theevs were taken the nexte day in Staffordshier and were committed to Stafford gaole without Bayle or mayneprize but sythence the Lord Stafford hath baylled

one of them called Edward Bradshaw and is come uppe to London to procure his pardon Whereupon I and certen of the bretherne have by this bearer (John Walther) sent our Letter to the Lord Chief Justice of England to make staye thereof, As by the letter dothe appye, which wee send to you to sett your hand thereunto yf so it please you."

VIII. Letter from Dethick. Feb. 17, 1604/5. [Mentions business referred to in letter above and trouble over Stewardship.] "For monye take no care, for M^r Noryce hathe xlij*l*. in his hand which I hope will prove A Weyfe, which the fellons tooke Awey, and after lefte it with the meyde (one of the accessories) and told her they wolde come ageyne within x dayes to fetche it and her awaye. Shee is in gaole and one that came from Litchefyld to ioyn with them, but did not. And besyde M^r Noryce hathe stawld A Cli. of Mistress Clarkes money which if punyshed wee shall have for A year gratis."

IX. Letter from Dethick. June 3, 1605. Asks that a Privy Seal may be obtained against certain persons who have taken toll from Leicester men at Barnsley in Yorkshire "it is good you sued oute a privye Seale, if you can gett it, to have a blancke scadule annexed to it, to put in what names shalbee needfull, from tyme to tyme untill the next terme, for our Townes men of all Trades are now molested for tole in everye Towne as Harborowe, Melton and Upingham, etc. And first I thincke it good wee had oute of the duchie A Charter under the Duchie Seale, to go tole free in all places, aswell within the Dutchie, as oute of the Dutchie, and not to bee made to goe tole free (as is used) in all places oute of the Dutchie and suche A charter as before I have noted wold be showed to the tole takers, and if then they will notwithstanding exact tole, then to serve thee privye seale upon them."

XXXIV. Chamberlains' Accounts. 1603-1604

Receipts. (Arthur Tatam's Collection.)

Other rents receyved parcell Arthure Tatams Collection and parcell of the possessions of the late Guylde called S. Margarettis Guilde in Leycester, and parcell of the Towne obitt lands, As followeth vicz.

In St Nicholas parische.

first received of the heyres or Executors of W^m Chamberlyn the younger baker deceassed for a messuage in Apple gate streete, sold to him in fee farm per annum ixs.

Item received of W^m Cotton gent for a messuage in the same streete in the occupacion of George Greene butcher, sold in fee farme rent per annum xxs.

Item received of Rychard Kirke Laborer, for a howsse in St Nicholas parische, Late in thoccupacion of one Weytherborne, per annum iijs. iiijd.

Item received of John Wood butcher for A howsse in St Nicholas parische, Late in the occupacion of W^m Pollard deceassed per annum vs.

Item received of Robert Cliston for a howsse in the said parische Late in W^m Wheyteleys occupacion per annum vs.

Item received of Helen Watson for a howsse in the said parish in her occupacion per annum vjs.

Item received of Margarett Bell for A howsse in her occupacion in the said parishe per annum viijs.

Item received of W^m Watson for A howsse in his occupacion, Late of one John Styntons and after James Robynsons in St Nicholas parishe per annum xiiij.s.

In the Southe Gate.

Item received of Roberte Ynglesbye for a howsse in his occupacion per Annum xvjs.

Item received of Thomas Walker glover for a howsse in his occupacion per Annum xiiijs. iiijd.

Item received of Hughe Heywood for a howsse in his occupacion per annum viijs.

Item received of Margarete Bate for A howsse and A gardyn parcell of Thomas Cowpers howsse, in her occupacion per annum vjs. viijd.

Item received of Anne Griffyn for A howsse and A gardyn in her occupacion parcell of the said Cowpers howsse, per Annum vjs. viijd.

Item received of Thomas Hallydaye Tayllor for A howsse in his occupacion per Annum xs.

Item received of Mr Aston for A messuage or tenement in his occupacion per Annum xvjs. viijd.

In Galtrye Gate.

Item received of Roberte Clifton for A messuage in his occupacion per annum xiiijs.

Item received of Thomas Rayner shoomaker for a howsse in his occupacion per annum vjs. viijd.

Item received of Thomas Allsoppe for a howsse in his occupacion in fee farme per Annum vs.

Item received of Thomas Clarke shoomaker, for A shoppe and Chambers in the Rowndell in his occupacion per Annum vijs.

- Item received of Michaell Walton for a gardyn in Humberston gate in Andrewe Burstalls occupacion ijs.

In Bellgrave Gate.

Item received of Thomas Tayllor for a messuage in his occupacion per Annum xvjs.

Item received of the said Thomas Tayllor for a Close neire plowman lane per annum ijs.

Item received of Robert Johnson for A Tenement in his occupacion per Annum xjs.

Item received of Francis Scampton Shoomaker for A howsse in his occupacion per annum xiijs.

Item received of W^m Fowler for three howsses and A close in St Margarets Church gate in his occupacion in fee farme per Annum xxs.

Item received of Rychard Lyllinge for A Close in St Margaretts parishe per annum iijs. iiijd.

Item received of John Whitehead Shepperd for a howsse in his occupacion per Annum vjs.

Item received of Wydowe Lymme for a howsse in her occupacion per annum vijs. vjd.

Item received of Rycharde Savadge shepperd for a howsse in his occupacion per annum vjs.

Item received of W^m Fletcher for a howsse in his occupacion per Annum iiijs.

Item received of Agnes Heyrne for a howsse in her occupacion per Annum vjs.

Item received of Anthonye Fletcher for a howsse in his occupacion and Late in the occupacion of Thomas Fletcher per Annum xs.

Item received of John Crofts Laborer for a howsse in his occupacion per annum iijs.

Item received of Thomas Crosse for a Tenement in his occupacion per annum viijs.

Item received of Dorothie Pencill alias Bate for a gardyn or Orchard in her occupacion and Late of Wydowe Brinckhursts per annum vjs.

Item of Robertt Jervys for a howsse in his occupacion and Late of Dorothie Pencills per Annum viijs.

Item of William Fermer gent for the howsse called St Johns in his occupacion per annum xls.

Item received of Robertt Trymmynge for a howsse and Orchard in his occupacion per annum vs.

In St Margarets Churche gate.

Item received of John Smalley gent for one Orchard in his occupacion per Annum xvjd.

Item received of John Russell for a howsse in his occupacion per annum vs.

In Senvye Gate.

Item received of Wydowe Cowper for a howsse in her occupacion per annum xs.

Item received of Christopher Norrice for A howsse in his occupacion per annum vijs.

Item received of William Graunge for A howsse in his occupacion per annum iiijs.

*Item received of Arthur Tatam for A howsse and lardge backside sometyme in the occupacion of Alice Morryce Widowe decessed and for A Close neyre buckston Lane, per annum ix*s.* viij*d.**

In the Northe Gate.

Item received of M^r Chapman for A howsse, Late in the occupacion of Hughe Baker per Annum vs.

Item received of Rycharde Clarke tanner for A Tenement in his occupacion and Late of John Welch Milner decessed per annum vs.

In Galtrye Gate.

*Item received of George Rowes, for M^r Jeffrye Davye, for a Barne and An Orcharde in Bellgrave gate in the occupacion of Robert Trymmynge per annum xi*s.**

In St Nicholas· Parische.

*Item received of Raphe Orton for a Gardyn or peece of Grownde neyre the olde hall per Annum xx*d.**

Summa xxli. xviijs. xd.

Chief Rents to the same late Guild of St Margarett's received.

*Item Chief Rents received belonginge to the saide Guilde lijs. ii*d.**

*Summa lijs. iij*d.**

*Summa to Arthur Tatam Collection xxij*l*l**. 12*s.* 1*d.**

Other Receipts as followeth.

*Item received of W^m Whatten dyar for a howsse called a stable * * and for the fee farme of iij yards of grounde in breadthe and vij yards in Lengthe parcell of the Comon muckell place neyre the sore and west gate iij*l*l**.*

*Item received of M^r Robertt Heyricke, for A fyne, for A Lease for xxjth yerers, of certen tithes, for Danetts hall and welche hall. xx*l*l**.*

*Item received of Walter Rudinge gent for A fyne for A Lease, for xxj yeeres, of certen Tithes of Westcotes xij*l*l**. vjs. viij*d.**

*Item received of Henrie Pawlmer, for a fyne for A Lease, for xxj^{ti} yeeres, of the Tithe and Ley in meadowes called Burges Meadowe, Marye meadowe, South fields, and of the Tithe Abbe meadowes beyonde the Newarke milnes xij*l*l**. vjs. viij*d.**

Payments. Gifts of Wine, Rewards, etc.

*Item in August for iij gallons of Clarett and ij gallons of white, one gallon and a quarter of Sacke, one suger lofe of ix*l*l**. and other bankytinge stufte, geven to the younge duke the kings second sonne xljijs. xd.*

Item pd for wyne and suger gyven to Sir W^m Skipwithe Knight and Sir Henry Beaumont of Gracedue Knight, Burgesses of the parliament for the Borrough of Leicester, Att theire Comynge from London after thend of the parliament vs. vjd.

Item given a pore Sowldger which was conveyed oute of Leycester from Constable to Constable, to the place of his birth xijd.

Item given by M^r Mayor to the Earl of Huntingdon when he went to his honor with the papists Books, for fyve quarts of Sacke and for the bottells vijs.

Item pd for the charges at the eatinge of the Bucke gyven to M^r Maior and his bretherne by Sir Henry Beaumont iijli.

Item pd for fyve flowndres frewte dishes, which weare sentto the Duke, with divers sorts of bankettinge dishes, which frute dishes were some parts of them broken and the rest carried away by the Dukes officers and followers xxijs. vjd.

[Payments to great men. Bysshoppes of Lymbrycke Jan. 3, Sir Carrolls Candis Feb. 12, Sir W^m Boes Feb. 16, Earl of Shrewsbury March 25, Bishop of Durham April 29, Countess of Shrewsbury May 24, Lady Browne Aug. 7, Earl of Rutland Sep. 14, M^r W^m Heyricke, the Kings Jeweller, Oct. 28, Sir Richard Threckston.

Payments to Players. Earl of Huntingdon's 30/-, Lord Kever's 20/-, Lord Stafford's 10/-, Lord Shandoe's "whoe did not playe" 10/-, Earl of Huntingdon's 10/-.]

Reparacions. Item pd to ij Laborers for iiiij dayes and a halfe in Clensinge the Poole in the South Gete vs. xd.

Fees and Wages.

Item pd to William Middleton for Carryinge of bowes and Rushes to Sir W^m Skipwiths howsse in Leicester Ageynst the duke, the Kings Seconde sonnes Commyng to Leycester out of Scotland ijs. vjd.

Item paid for the Loss of Pewter and Lynnyns (borrowed ageynst the saide Dukes comynge to Leicester), and for washinge of the Lynnyn then borrowed by Peter Perkyns and Raphe Edgerton xviijs. iiijd., md that at the said tyme Raphe Edgerton had the feyther bedd and furnyture from the Recorders Chamber at the hall, whith ij bosters to Sir W^m Skypwiths howsse Ageynst the said Dukes commynge thither Att which tyme one of the Bolsters was gon and not since harde of.

Item given to John Browne the Town Gaoler at the said Assizes, towards the Releife of the prisoners because they should not Begge during the said Assises ijs.

[Receipts £414. 18. 5.

Payments £401. 12. 11.]

XXXV. Letter from the Mayor

Hall Papers III, No. 653. [April 17, 1605.] Mr Debetey I Commend me to you and to the Reste of my bretheren this is to lete you to understand that by the weay as I travelled torde Lonndon at Stone-strettford I ded receve by the handes of Mr Thomas Wathawe the bearer hereof a letter delevered to me from the Kyngs moste exelent Magestey the contents thereof dowthe remen with me tyle I dow retorn which I hope wyle be spedely by gods grases so tyle I cam to call a Common Counsel to geve answare as we are bownd by our aleagensses and dewtey to his Magestey concerning his Magestey request to me and you my bretheren concerninge our Stewardshepe which the Kynges Moste exelent Magestey hath wretten moste gratyously to the pore borow of Lester to have his request upon condysyones to our lycking that yf we dow pleashur aney before his Magesteys requeste dow come to us yett yf we be free that we shold then perform our dewtey as concernes us at our metting which I hope will coumfore presenyly and in the men tyme all men acording to ther othe to hold ther voysses to them selevs.

17 April, 1605.

Yours Thomas Chettle
Maior.

[Hall Papers III, No. 652. April 14, 1605. Letter from the King recommending John Walhall as Steward.]

XXXVI. Letter to the Deputy Mayor and Aldermen

Hall Papers III, No. 666. [May 3, 1605.] All Commendacions with mortified heartes by the cruell crosses in our busines for the towne this terme, to all the towne in generall and every true hearted townsman in particular now and always remembered etc.

Albeit we heare with greiffe by the common crie from Leicester, and perceive with blushinge by oure notinge and pointinge at us heare by our former pettie crosses in our proceedings that our success is well neare as bad as showe of the old Sheppey Camdyn and others with whome divers tymes wee meete and commiserate one another, and sufficiently knowne, by the faithfull reporte of divers of our neighbours especially Mr Gillott and Mr Stanley who muche comforted us duringe their presence with us, as lighteninge our burden by their partakeing thereof and assurance of their testimonie thereof upon future occasion in so muche that yf they had not be here wee shold have heardlye indured any further travell and cheifly by reason of evill neighbours bothe here and at home for first as

concerninge our said former troubles which Sir Henrie Harrington hath and doeth put us to whereof you shall receive some note by this bearer the have bene procured and laboured by Mr Tamworthe before Sir Henrie and his Ladie any tyme theis foure yeares as Sir Henrie confesseth to us and for Mr Randes the lawer and Mr Sutton Sir Henries Sollicitor in this cause for so it pleaseth Sir Henrie to cal hym the in playeinge their partes the doe force muche untrueth with contynuall instigacion to Sir Henrie most uniuely to vexe us in our proceedings. And Mr Hampton wee heare the fourthe in the messe making up a full packe of good neighbours is verie officious in workinge our freemen in the Bishoppes fee to revolt from us and as far as he can prevaile to breed a dislikinge of our proceedinge and to make stay thereof after so muche travell and expences to the impoverishinge and ruyne of the Corporacion, but wee hope god willinge in the ende, to attayne the wished haven albeit that after Sir Henrie Harrington by his petition to the Lord Chancellor staied us at the great Seale for that wee sought his inheritance in our Charter as he alledged; for answer whereunto wee attended Mr Attorney General by Lord Chancellors reference to satisfie his Honor therein; from twesday was sennitt untile thursday laste, when in the afternoune Sir Henries Counsell and ours were to meeete before Mr Attorney to informe him that he might satisfie my Lord Chancellor at which tyme my Lord of Huntingdon came accompanied with Mr Walter Hastings Sir Henrie Harrington, Sir Henrie Beaumont of Coleorton and another knight whose name as yett wee knowe not, to Mr Attorney and there my Lord shewed Mr Attorney the Kinges letter whereby the further Consideracion of the matters conteyned in our Charter were referred to my Lord Chancellor and Mr Attorney Generall and withall exhibited certen articles against our Charter the tenor whereof this bearer shall acquainte you with as Mr Attorney certified to our Recorder and us presently after the were gone for we came presently to have taken them there but the stayed not and Mr Attorney told us further that it seemed the hold him in Jelousie to be to favourable for us in that he had taken the cause from him alone, and referred the same to my Lord Chancellor and him but he told us that for the Bishoppes fee it was most fitt for us to have itt and that it was no preuidice to Sir Henry and that the matters alledged against us were but trifles and that he wold so certifie my Lord Chancellor and that not for any private respecte but for Conscience Sake he muste nowe needs stand close to us and the rather for that so manye greate men did oppose themselves against us for chippes and bad use goe downe to his man Rogers for the note which my Lord of Huntingdon lefte, who gave us the same

to copie and that doeth cheifly concerne matters of the Duchie in our Charter wherewith we have acquainted Mr Recorder * * * who thinketh my Lord Chancellor will not meddle with theis matters without privitye of Mr Chancellor of the Duchie; now my Lord Chancellor did upon the said petition exhibited by Sir Henrie Harrington presently sitting in Court send for Mr Chancellor of the Duchie to be informed of him for matters in our Charter, whose answere was that for those things that were in the Duchie, in our Charter, he assured his Lordshipp that there was nothinge but that which was fitt for us and no way preiudiciale either to his maiestie or any subiecte and that he was redie and wold be to performe the same, and that he and the Attorney of the Duchy had bothe after great consideracion ioyned therein. And thus he resteth and wee assure our selves will doe Nowe forasmuch as our Recorder and the Common Voyce of all indifferent freindes and the mille testes of our owne Consciences doe with one Consent witnesse and approve the innocence of our cause, albeit the greatnes and multitude of our adversaries wee yett here maynteyne our batered front and as men longe besieged by the enemie yet assured of a righteous cause and quarrell willinge to hold out as long as furniture and provision will laste and have togeither with Mr Recorder held a randevowe and caste up our reckeninge and setled our reste and resolucion upon your speedie answere for our proceedings in hope of perpetuall freedome, or ells our yeeldinge to contynuall thraldome and bondage and in the meane tyme god willinge we will fortifie our cause the best manner wee can albeit wee are and feare the greatest assaults against us have bene and are our dissention amongst ourselves And therefore wee pray you by your ioynt letters and subscriptions comfort our weeke knees either in proceedinge under or forgoeing this heavy burden there is (God make you wise to chuse the better) bothe freedom and thraldom in this matter proposed unto you, as you are one corporacion so indeede be one in herte and accion and let not the house be devided in yt selfe lest by our Saviors prophecie our Maioraltie become a Baylwick for in theis articles the Steward in the Court of pleas doeth challenge to be Superior and cheiffe to the Maior. Theis be but the beginninge of evills unles you be faithfull and of good and wise heartes the Bishoppes fee men we doubt not but will verie willingly be of our government for divers causes for therebie the shall partake with all our Duchie priviledges be the free or not free and of the ease and affabilitie of our government and if the be free of our pasture, and of all the benefitt of tradinge with us without which the canot live in the fee as wee assure ourselves the will confesse and subscribe Thus muche forthe of the

abundance of our greiffe having travelled there above our tyme hopinge every day to have written better news desiringe you to ioyne with us and pray for us in all our honest and just proceedinges for your common good in this our wearisome busines wherein God give succes to his glorie and your comfort Amen Amen Seriantes In in fletestret this 3 of May 1605.

Wee heartely desire your securitie in this and all other busines of the tearme with speedie retorne of this messenger and of the certificate from the Bishops fee and of all other things that may forward our proceedings.

Your vearie Lovinge frends

Thomas Chettell Maior

Thomas Ward

Nicholas Gyllott

[*Note added*] Lett as many as you can gett as dwell within the Bishoppes fee certefy their wyllingnes to be within the freedome and government of the borough * * * And I dare to be bolde of knowledge to certifie you of their faythful care and diligence who have followed this busines heare beinge very strangely opposed against by greate men and meanes but I hope for a good ende yf once it weare harde.

Your loving frend Augustine Nicolls.

XXXVII. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers III, No. 674. [July 18, 1605.] Mr Thomas Chettell Maior, Mr John Wylne, Mr Thomas Warde, Mr Parker, Nicholas Gyllott, W^m Ive (Camerar) Nicholas Rudynge.

Theise are to survey the wholl Twelve yarde lande meadowe pasture and common belonginge to the towne (Mr doctors parte excepted) And after the survey then to apporcion everye yarde land a like as well—meadowe pasture and Common but not to lett or sett And afterwards to be lett at a Common Hall to the best profytt of the towne And also these to survey the dekeys of the graunge and to sett down the value of the dekeys.

[Agreement to same effect at another Common Hall (No. 700). Aug. 14, 1605.]

XXXVIII. *Shop closing on Sabbath Day*

Hall Papers III, No. 709. [1605 MSS. B], the 19th of Julye. Itt is thought good by the maiestrates that all the names of the wolline drapers be collected to gether and to show there willingnes for keptinge the Sabothe days and noe man shall open his shopte to sell anye ware

of the Saboth day to the consente hereof the whose names are here under written hath sett to there owne hands.

Robert Gyllott	Thomas Chettell
libeus Chambrlin	John bonnett
James Ellis	John Blount
William Bentt	Zacharie Symkin
Samuell Bonnett	Robert Wattes
Walter Gillott	Edward Wormall.

XXXIX. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers III, No. 700. [Aug. 14, 1605.] Agreed upon as followeth

A peltinge matcheyvell Jacke, spoken at this Assemblye by M^r Morten.

It is agreed that the housses at the wool Hall shalbe Lett upon a yerelye rent, to the use [of the] towne, and the wool hall to be presentlye Repayred and they that buye or sell wooll there rated towards the repayre of the said wooll hall.

It is also agreed that Robert Heyricke glover shall take or suffer to be taken away the bancke at his wall syde [*illegible*] and not to welshe [*sic*] skynes theire any more except upon a forme and upon payne of *xs.* for everye defaulte.

XL. *Meeting of the Twenty-four and the Forty-eight*

Hall Book, p. 299. [Sep. 30, 1605.] Memorandum that at this meetinge A precept sent to Wyatt Fowler defendant, by Sir Edward Hastings Knight plent * * * for not grynedinge of corne at the Castle Millnes was oppenlye Readd. The daye for the Commission to be satt on is at the Angell in Leicester on Sayturdaye the xij of October next, dated at the Abbye of Leicester xxvij die Septembris 1605.

The said Sir Henrie Hastings being tennante to the said Mills, wolde not have the Northe Mills, nor Newarke Mills, to have any grynedinge of maulte or other Corne, but by his sufferance, which I hope will never take effecte.

XLI. *Papers relating to Gunpowder Plot*

Hall Papers III, No. 273. [Nov. 7, 1605.] [Letter from Lord Huntingdon to Mayor.] After my hartie comedacions I have receaved from my Lord Harryngton a trew reporte of theise present rebellious attempte wishing you according to your best discretion to take order as may be fitt.

The trew coppie of his lordshipps letter with his other advercite-
ments I send you word for word.

Right Hon: theise traytors that are rysen say it is to mentaine the Catholike cause the persons of qualitie be Robt. Winter, Robt. Acton late traytor for coyning and his eldest son, two of the Littletons Robt. Catsbie two of the Wryghts in Lincolnshire the Graunts of Norbrooke and another of the Winterses and one Rockwood a yorkshire man and a Knight whose name we cannot yet learne the whoale number 60^ti horse whereof greate horse 30^ti the are naked only dags and gunnes the shocke on softly and are gone to Auster and so towardes Winters howse this appeereth by examinacion of some of their followers that are taken and are in the Gaale after them are come from Ashebei the Lady Catsbies howse two wayne load with trunks and furniture for horses which are taken at Radford and shall be brought to me to-morrow the high Shreive and Sir John Ferrers are gone after them and I remayne here to kepe a force in readines for defense of our towne and to be in readiness We have sent to the Counsaile to acquainte them with so much as then we did knowe.

We guesse thei will go towarde Wales where thei hope for better then heare.

Received from Mr Coombe from Warwicke the vth of November about nyne of ye clock at night.

The reporte of Mr James Digbie and Symon Digbie gent that being present at a great meeting of hunting at Dunkirke vth of November 1605 Sir Everard Digbie going to horsback used theise words to the foresaid parties there are great matters discovered at London I know there is an intencion to cut all Catholikes throats for my owne parte I will shifte for my self and I heare the Lord of [Northum]berland is committed to the towre and also [*paper torn and illegible*] Georg Prince of Dunchurch saith that he heard one speake out of a casement in the Inne and said I doubt we are all betrayed

Mr Robert Catesbie	Mr Mordinne
Sir Everard Digbie	Mr Wryght
Mr Ambrose Rockwood	Mr Winter
2 of the Littletons	Mr Peareson
Mr Robert Acton	

My good Lord thus much in hast I have wrytten because I would not stay your messengers As any other thing hapneth I will advercite your ho: of it and thus craving pardon for this breefe and unmanerly wryting I take my leave from Coventre the 7th of November 1605 Thus have you a trew notice of that I canne learne ye rest I refer unto

your best direccions according to the place you beare and so in hast
I bid you farewell ^Ashebei this 7th of November 1605.

Your very loving friend

H. Huntingdon.

To my loving freind the maior of Leicester and in his absence
unto his deputie give theise with speede.

This letter delivered to Mr W^m Norice deputie to Mr Heyricke
maior of Leicester the said viith of November 1605 at the Towne Hall
about viii of the clocke that...[*the rest is illegible*].

No. 269. [Nov. 8, 1605.] [Letter to Lord Huntingdon.] Ryght
honorable and humble duties remembered. we do heare of an unlawfull
assembylye, lately comitted at Warwick in the countie of Warwickshire
And for that wee are desierus to be ready to assist your lordship in
what we maye for the better preservacion of his Majesties peace, and
suppression of such unlawfull assemblies, we desire your lordshippe
advertiscement therein, that (if neede bee) wee maye (as everye good
subject ought) be readie to doe our best endeavers, for the suppression
of the same, and preservacion of his Majesties peace and state.

Thus presuminge of your good lordship we humblye take oure
leaves, commendinge your lordship to the proteccion of the Allmighty
Leicester viii day of November 1605

Your Honors humble to comand in the
absence of oure Maior

W. Norice

James Ellys

Thomas Chettell

This letter was not sent [*added in another hand*].

No. 270. [Nov. 8, 1605.] [Examination of Postmaster.] The ex-
amynacion or sayinge of Thom: Stapleford of Leicester postmaster
taken the viiith daye of November Anno 1605 Before W^m Noryce
Deputy to Mr Heyryck Mayor of Leicester, W^m Merten Alderman
James Ellis and Thomas Chettel Justice.

The said examineate saythe that at Leicester aboute the vith of
October last, one Mr Wright hyered hym to be his guide to Nottingham,
and from theire to Mauncefield, and theire he left him, and then at his
comyng backe agayne on the Wednesday next after, he hyred this
examineate ageyne to be his guide to Coventry and from theire to a
gentlemans housse in a wood within a myle of Kings Wood bruke,
and theire he left hym, and as he thinkethe the said Mr Wright fetched
a horsse lode of mony oute of Lincolneshire, which he carryed to the
said gentlemans housse where this examineate cold not be lodged

because they said therein was at the least a hundred horses come in as it was reported. Whereupon this examinate was sent a mile and a halfe off to his lodginge.

[*In another hand.*]

The said examinate sent to the Earle of Huntingdon with letters to the effect above said by his [*illegible*]

No. 272. [Nov. 8, 1605.] [Letter from Lord Huntingdon.] Mr Norrice, and you the most whose names are subscribed. I have received your letters; with the examinacion of the Postmaster and the discription of Percy you write of. I thanke you for them, and if occasion serve I will not fayle to comend your loyalty, and dewtifull regards in his Majesties behavlf. assuringe you that I will not fayle in my best and most dewtyfull service to assist you in his Majesties behavlf as may appartayne. Have a care that stronge watch be kept, and that none be suffered to passe without good examinacion of his qualitie, whence he cometh, and whither he goeth; wherein if he shall anyway be founde defective, or be not well knownen to your selves, make stay of the party till further notice be given. The like course I minde to take my selfe, beinge hartely sory that those of Loughboro suffered as I am informed a troope of gallants to passe there towne without takeinge further notice of them, but it was before I could possibly give them any notice of these unexpected accidents. This not doubtinge of yr loyall carridge in this behavlf, and expectinge dayly and hourelly from you what may come to yr knowledge fitt to be understood with my harty comendations for this time I leave you.

Asheby this 8th of November 1605.

Y^r veary loveinge friend

H. Huntingdon.

To my loveinge frends Mr Norrice Mr Morton Aldermen of Leicester geve these wth speede.

This letter was delivered to Mr Norys deputie to Mr Heyricke Mayor upon Saytursday in the morning the ix of November 1605: aboute viii of the clocke, by Thomas Stapleford the postmaster for Leic: D.E.

No. 279. [Nov. 21, 1605.] [Arrest and imprisonment of James Johnson.] Burgus Leic: This bearer James Johnson servant to Mr Roberte Turrett of Kettlebye in the county of Lincolne who was stayde at the Boroughe of Leicester uppon Thursday the vii daye of November last past, (1605) who was hered (as hee saythe) to carrie a letter for one John Turpyn, to one Mr John Wright of Lapworthe in the countie of Warwick for a cople of hownds, and beinge ex-

amyned and searched upon speciall occasion for his majesties service concernynge the state and fynedinge nothinge aboue hym, whereby directlye to charge hym in any respect, and the rather for that he was before stayde and examyned at the Cyttye of Coventrye the vith of November last past, by Mr Mathewe Collyns Mayor of the said cittye, and then nothinge found upon hym but onely an awnser of the said letter concernynge the said hounde, was theire raleased, and the letter by the said M^r Maior retayned, As by his pasport of the said vi of November last past, remeyninge with us, dothe appeyre sync which tyme for his majesties better service in that behalf we have made staye of the said James Johnson, and fyndinge nothinge but well and honestlye of hym, have discharged the said pore man, and have therewithall graunted hym this our license of pasporte for his more quiete and safe passage whom.

Leycester this xxith of November 1605

Robart Heyricke Maior
James Ellys
Norice

The aforesaid James Johnson, notwithstandinge this present pasport upon good consideracion was still (on his majesties behalf detayned) And this present Tuesday the thirde daye of December 1605 by virtue of the Counsells letters sent to W^m Noell Esqr and Sherif of the County of Leicester was delyvered to his under sheriff and by hym was presentlye this daye sentt by the pursyvant uppe to London to the Lords of his Majesties most honorable pryyve Counsell.

Dethick.

XLII. Assize of Candles

Hall Papers III, No. 284. [Dec. 1605.] Appoynted to serche for tallowe hyde and fells for butchers of the County that bringe there fleshe to the markett to sell.

Thomas Vyckers tanner, Robert Eyryche glover, Thomas Overend Chandler, and John Wood butcher, everye butcher of the countye that bringethe fleshe victuall to this markett to sell and doth not bringe his hyde, skynnes and fells and tallows with him or them shall for everye defaulte forfytt viiid. to the chambre of the town of Leicester.

Item it ys agreed that M^r Newcome accordinge to his bargayne shall holde one yarde land of the iii yard land appoynted to M^r Pilkington and M^r Newcombe proporcionably of like goodnes.

XLIII. Meeting of the Twenty-four

Hall Papers III, No. 297. [Jan. 12, 1605/6.] It is by all these now assembled agreed to move the Justice of the Countye tomorrow in the open Sessyons to joyne in contrybucion with the towne of Leicester for the answering of the suyte commenced ageynst the towne for tole taking in Leicester.

To go to the Justice to-morrow. Mr Ellis, Mr Nixe, Mr Gyllott, Mr Chettell, Mr Warde, Mr Pilkington.

Jan. 13, 1605/6. The Quarter Sessions for the County.

At which Sessions it was moved firstly by Mr Doctor Chippingdale and seconde by Sir Henry Hastings Knight Justice of the said countye to the gentlemen highe Cunstables and freedholders then assembled, to have a some of money collected within the countye of Leicester for the present defence of the pretended tole by Okes and others.

XLIV. Order to arrest Jesuits

Hall Papers III, No. 301. [Jan. 23, 1605/6.] Thursday night the xxiii of Januarye (1605) aboute vj of the clocke at night Received by Mr Robert Heyrick Mayor at thands of Henrye Freeman one of his maiesties messengers a wrytt of certen proclamacions for the apprehencion of iii Jesuys etc.

Gyven him in rewarde iijs. iiiid.

XLV. Meeting of the Twenty-four

Hall Papers III, No. 316. [March 6, 1605/6.] This meetinge is concerninge the divicion of the Townes iiiier yarde lande to bee made equall in quantitie, and the over plus to be devyded to the said iiiier yard land.

Appoynted to goe into the field this afternoone vicz Mr Maior, Mr Noryce, Mr Morton, Mr Ellys, Mr Gyllott, Mr Thomas Chettell, Mr Freake, Mr Bayle Wylne, Mr Bonnett, Mr Andrewe, Mr Pilkington, Mr Parker, Mr Atton.

It is agreed that so many as have byn Maiors shall successyvely one after another be deputye to Mr Maior, for his ill dayes weekly one after an other, Mr Norice to beggin for Thursdaye Sayturdaye and Mondaye next.

[Hall Papers III, No. 299. Jan. 1605/6. Decision made to divide the four yard lands called Archer's and Wightman's land.]

XLVI. *Letters relating to buildings in Market Place*

Hall Papers III, No. 307. [No date.] [Letter from Leicester.] Mr Pilkington it is not unknowne to you howe greatly our markett place is straytened with shoppes, which makethe a greate a nusance with fylthe and garbage to the inhabitants and passangers besyds mutche hurte done by cutt purcs and by other lude people to his majesties subjects and nowe there is one Thom Wynbye a Mercer who hath of late procured Mr Audytor Fanshawes letter to Mr Bayllye to appoynte hym some conveynyent place in the said markett place to builde a shopp upon who verye latelye bought tymber readye framed to have sett uppe in the said market place by the appoyned of the Bayllye, the buyldinge uppe whereof I have denyed and still do, yet notwithstandinge Mr Bayllye ys verye ymportunate to have it sette uppe, and sathe he is ferme to ymprove the kyngs Revenues and therefore I knowe hee will nowe at his beinge at London doe what he can with Mr Fanshawe for the effectinge thereof. I have sent a letter to Mr Awditor by Mr Warde to certifie hym of the greate hurte that wille therebye insue to his majesties subjects if it bee suffered to bee sett uppe, and withall to request hym to gyve order to the contrarye, which letter (if Mr Warde have not delyvered) then I wold request you to peruse it, and if you shall fynde it needfull then I praye you to make Mr Recorder pryyve thereof, and withall requeste his worshippe to make Mr Chaunceller or Mr Attorney therein to gett an order putt down in the courte that no stawles bee hereafter erected in the markytt place for the strayteninge and hurte thereof, which I take is one poynte in the assurances betweene the duke of Lancaster and the towne of Leicester that the markytt shall not bee straytened.

To his loving uncle Mr Will: Dethick at Leicester. Bar these.

No. 310. [No date.] Petition to Sir John Fortescue, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.

In moste humble wise complaynynge, shewith unto your honour, your daylye orators, the Maior Aldermen and Inhabitants of the Borouge of Leicester. That whereas [of] Auncient tyme, (whereof the memorye of man is not to the cont[rary] [there]) hathe beene a markett holden in the Borough of Leicester weeklye upon the Sayturday [which] hathe bene a verie large, and fayor markett for concourse of [illegible] trafique in not straytened with shoppes, untill nowe of late yeares by buildinge of manye shoppes by mercers, fishers pettie chapmen and suche other lyke trades men, by lycense of the Audytor of the [illegible] and favour of the Baylliffe for the tyme beinge under colour of

[illegible] the Kings Rents [words crossed out] verye greatlye by reason whereof the said markett is now straitened.

[Written on the back]

whereby his majesties subjects and the inhabitants thereby dwellinge are greatlye [injured].

And a goodlye howsse of his majesties called the draperye, for mercers and drapers [Auncient illegible] muche neclected and thereby great hurt done to the kings subiects against his highnes peace. In tender consideracion whereof, wee your said orators moste humblye desire your honours favours for reformacion thereof, that it wolde please your honours to take suche order as hereafter there be no shoppes erected or buylded in the said markett place, other then suche as maye bee removed on ye markett daye at night, whereby the said markett place maye be the cleyner and sweter kept.

And that those shoppes nowe standinge maye bee by your honourable order [removed].

XLVII. Common Hall

Hall Papers III, No. 328. [1605.] It is now agreed that M^r Doctor Chippingdale shall have a lease of the Bull howsse for [illegible] yeares from the Annunciacion next for xls. per annum.

It is nowe sayd that the allowance for the keepinge of the Bull and Bore, ys v. Kyes pastures in the town pastures [illegible] the cowe hey and one pece of meadowe called the Bull pen. Thomas Camden saythe the allowance is ix Kyes pastures.

XLVIII. Petition for extension of borough jurisdiction in Bishop's fee

Hall Papers III, No. 274. [1604-5.] Memorandum that we whose names are underwritten are persuaded that yf it bee his Majesties pleasure to give authoritie, to the Maior and Burgesses of Leicester to apprehend evil doers and to punyshe misdemeanors in those howses and Tenements called the Bysshoppes fee adjoyninge and intermingled together with thee howses of the towne. Itt will effecte a muche more quiete and orderlie government of the whole towne, and of the saide tenements called Bysshoppes fee, and be noe waye prejudiciale, but rather an ease to the Justice of the Peace for the County.

Thus muche we are content to subscribe for our opinyons howe profitable it would be to have the towne and the said other howses unyted under one government, not intending thereby to prejudice the lawfull righte or libertie of anie man, of whiche, those whom his Majestie hathe sett in authoritie are to Judge and not wee. And further it is not

intended to keepe oute anie of the countre artisants from trafique in the towne of Leicester, otherwise then of auncyent tyme (for three hundred yeeres past) hath been used, and by lawes and statute of this Realme is provided.

[There is another copy of this letter, signed by Thomas Chettell, Mayor and 72 others.]

XLIX. Chamberlains' Accounts. 1604-1605

[Five entries as to "receipts of moneye taken uppe upon interest" the sums varying from £100 to £20. Rate of interest "after tenne pounds in the hundred."]

Other Receipts for fynes or Incomes of Leases let to the tennants or occupiars of the wholl Graunge called the Newarke Grange and for the iiiij or yarde Land withoute hay and Towne obytt lands.

First received of John Chippingdale Doctor of Lawe, for a fyne or Incomm of that parte or moietie of the Graunge in his occupacion, for tenure of xxj yeeres, under the yearelye Rente of Lli. per Annum from the feast of S. Michaell tharchaungell (1605) (excepted such things As in his Lease are excepted) Cli.

Item received of Mr John Mabbs, for the fyne or Incomm of Three yarde Lande, meadowe and pasture, whereof twoe to be of the Graunge Lande and the thirde to be one of the foure yarde Lande withoute meadowe, for tenure of xxj yeares from the said feast of Saint Michaell thearchaungell (1605) for and under the yeerely rent of xxli. (excepte as in the said Lease is excepted).

Item received of Mr Fowks Mr of the Olde hospitall in the Newarke of Leicester, for fyne or Incomm of the old Graunge howsse with all the Barnes stables and Roomes thereunto belonginge. And twoe yard lande, meadowe and pasture of the saide Graunge Lande, and one of the other foure yard land withoute Meadowe, for tenure of xxj yeares from the feast of Saint Michaell tharkeangell (1605) for and under the yearlye rent of [illegible] excepte as in the saide Lease is excepted.

Payments. Dekeys. [Large sum: £84. 12s. 3d. Many items recorded as unpaid.]

Guifts of wyne, Rewards, etc.

Item the viijth daye of October, given to Sir Henry Beaumont Knight at his marriage, at the Abbye of Leicester iij quarte of sacke and iij quartes of clarett vs.

Item the vj of November beinge the exercise daye, givyn to the preacher and mynisters at the exercise one pottell of Clarett wyne and one quarte of Sacke ijs. iiijd.

Item the xxvijth of November, pd for one quarte of Clarett and one quarte of Sacke given to Mr Toby Heyrickewho that daye preached xx*d.*

Item the viijth of Januarye pd for A pottell of Sacke given to the Mynsters at the Exercise dynner. ijs.

Item the fyfte of March, pd for a pottell and a pinte of Clarett wyne and suger and a pottell of Sacke given to the mynisters at the exercise dynner. iiijs.

[Payments to great persons. Oct. 22, the Constable of Scotland, the Earl of Errol and the Earl of Luscoe ; Oct. 23, the Chancellor of Scotland, the Earl of Mounterose and the Lord Glosey ; Oct. 23, the Vice-Chancellor of Scotland ; March 15, the Ladie Arabella, and Aug. 12, the Ladie Arabella.

Account of expenses re town suits.

Michaelmas Term 1604, £38. 5s.

Hilary Term £148. 9s. 11*d.*

Total £191. 14s. 11*d.*

Easter Term 1605, £121. 16s. 2*d.*

Trinity Term 1605, £67. 7s. 11*d.*

Total of whole £381. 10s.

"Whereof Remeynyng in Mr Thomas Chettells hands to answer to the Towne xlli. vjs. jd."]

Reparacions.

Item pd to three workemen for workinge Abowte Pipes of Leyde fownde in the feilde iijs.

Item pd to George Hensham and others for working at pease well abowte the Pipes of Leyde theire found in the grounde iijs.

Item then pd to John Clarke Laborer for ij dayes and a half for working at the towne hall abowte these things ijs. ij*d.*

Item pd to William Sheene and his sonne and his man for workinge ij dayes A pace vs.

Item pd to Robert Ludlam for x dayes work xs, to William Ludlam for fyve dayes work vs. To fyve workemen for xxxiiij*t*i dayes worke xxvij*s.* iiijd. To ij servers for xj dayes worke vijs. iiijd.

Item for the charge of Mr Maior, Nicholas Gyllott and Mr Chase to the Earle of Huntingdons for ij dayes and a halfe to acquaynte his honor with Crosland the Recusante his books and pictures and for theire horsse hier and horsse charge xijs. iiijd.

Item paid for halfe the charge of the Comission betweene the Towne and Mr Fowks about the title of Sainte John the Baptist, called S. Joh [illegible] in Leicester vs.

Item pd to Thomas Eynsor Mr Holts' man for halfe the charge of a Commission and the Commissyoners charges at the Talbott in Leycester, theire Sittinge of a Commission for Mr Holte concerning

the title of certan lande in Leicester belonginge to the late Colledge neire the Castle xxvs. viijd.

L. Order to Constable

Hall Papers III, No. 341. [March 31, 1606.] To the Constable of Mr Mortons Ward. Theise are to will and require you to sommon and warne all the Inhabitants within your warde, and to bringe before me, or my deputie to the howse of John Mabbes in this towne of Leicester beinge the signe of the Crosse Keyes on tuesday nexte beinge the firste daie of Aprill nexte All suche weights and measures as they or anie of them hathe by xj of the clocke in the morninge, and that you warne all Bakers dwellinge within the same your warde then and theire to bringe some of all sorts of Breade, that they make to sell, and that you also warne foure other good and sufficiente parsons in the same your warde then and theire to doe and performe as Apperteyneth and that you then and theire retorne this warrant under your hands whereof fayle you not as you will answere the Contrarie att your perill Dated this last of March 1606.

Tho: Olyver Clericus mercati Dni Regis
duc. Lanc.

the Retorne of the said precepts

forasmuch as the execution of the Statutes for the Assise of Waights and Measures within this Borough of Leicester dothe Apperteyne to the Maior of this Incorporacion of Leycester by Charters from his Maties progenitors, and not to anye other Jurisdiccion, therefore I maye not withoute warrant from the Mayor of the Incorporacion make execucion of this precept as within to me it is Commanded.

Henry Greene Constable of Mr Ellis warde.

The like retorne made of all other the precepts directed to the rest of the Constables within this Borough Primo die Aprilis 1606 M^d that all the precepts made to the Constables of this borough of Leicester by the Thomas Olyver whereof this is a true copie of one of them, had no seale unto them fixed.

LI. Meeting of the Twenty-four

Hall Papers III, No. 343. [May 18, 1606.] Item it is appoynted that the Constable and thirdbarowe of Mr Attons warde, with the Churchwardens of St Maryes, shall call forthe of any housse one in that warde and so of Mr Hunters warde, and Mr Freakes warde, and the Constables and thirdbarowes of the same warde, and the Churchwardens of St Martyns and St Nycholas shall also call oute one of everywones

in the said severall wards to gayther stones in the southe feilds, at such dayes as shalbe appoynted by the Mayor and his Deputye, towards the repairing of the highewayes therein and some of the[m] to have pick-axes and shovells And so other wards after these have done.

LII. Common Hall

Hall Book, p. 303. [June 25, 1606.] It is nowe agreed, that the Mayor for the tyme beinge, shall have to his owne use, the dockitt monye.

LIII. Common Hall

Hall Papers III, No. 360. [Aug. 13, 1606.] Memorandum it is agreed and ordered at the hall within mentioned, that whosoever shalbe come tenant to the towne for the North Mills shall covenante with the towne by his lease not to sett or lett the same milnes or any part thereof to anie whatever, other then to his wief or childe or children. But onlye to the Corporacion of Leicester payinge ratably backe ageyne of the some of money that shall be payd for a fyne accordinge to the terme of yeres then to come.

LIV. Election of Mayor

Hall Book, p. 304. [Aug. 13, 1606.] Theire is now sett downe for the choyce of the Maior for the yeare to Come

Mr John Mabbes

Mr Lebbeus Chamberlyn

Saynt Mathews Even, Sep. 20, 1606.

A meetinge of Mr Maior, Mr Recorder and the Aldermen And of suche of the xlviijti As have beene Chamberlyns.

It is nowe Agreed to putt Mr Mabbes oute of the Eleccion.

Mr Mabbes is to perform vicz

He is to paye, which was due in Januarye last *xxii.*

And for dressinge of A yard land late } v marks

Archers as it is now devided }

And to satisfie Mr Pilkington for the }

Corne he tooke from him }

And to paie his Rent due at Michaell-

mas next }

LV. Meeting of Mayor, Recorder, etc.

Hall Papers III, No. 373. [Sep. 3, 1606.] It is now ordered, that suche of the tennants of the Graunge called Temples Graunge, and of Archers Lande and Wightmans lande as have bargayned for Leases

thereof, and have not as yett payde theire fynes, shall at the furthest, upon Michaellmas Daye next, Paye theire fynes yet behind, or else theire bargaynes to bee voyde. And to paye them within xiiii Dayes after Michaellmas nexte so for theire rents nowe behynde; and they that fayle thereof, theire bargaynes to bee all voyd.

Also all fynes and rents beinge payde as aforesaide then divizion to be made of Archers and Wightmans lande into foure equall parts And also M^r Newcomes yarde lande to bee devided as a third parte from M^r Pilkingtons, of the twoe thirde parts, residue of that whiche is lett to them.

Allso it is ordered to give to Thomas Ensor upon the delyverye up to the Maior of Leicester to and for the use of the Corporacion, of a profitte and true rental of all the tithes Chieff Rents and other Rents, of all the lands tenements and possessions, belonginge to the late Colledge of our Ladye over ageynste the Castle of Leicester, togeyther with the true names of the now tenants and occupacions thereof. Ten pounds of lawfull money.

LVI. *Meeting of Mayor and the Twenty-four*

Hall Papers IV, No. 8. [Oct. 5, 1606.] This meetinge was procured by M^r Maior, on M^r Tamworths behalfe for keepinge of the Courte, which in respect of the copye of the Iniunction dated iiiij die Maii anno ij^o Jacobi Regis et Scotie xxxvij^o.

Att this meetinge it is by all theise nowe agreed, (savinge onlye M^r Maior and M^r Morton) to holde the Courte to morrowe accordinge to our Charter of xlj Elizabeth nuper Reginae which M^r Maior refuzeth to hold in Respete of the Copie of the said Iniunction, notwithstandinge the order oute of the duchie graunted after the said Iniunction of iiiij^o die Maii Anno Jacobi Regis ij et Scotie xxxvij^o Whereupon the Bretherne aforesaid (all but M^r Maior M^r Norys and M^r Morton) caused me the Towne Clarke to wryte a letter to sendd to M^r Seriant Nicolls our Recorder for his advertisement therein to M^r Maior the which M^r Maior understandinge, made staye of the sendinge and withall promised to hold the Courte accordinge to the said Charter of xli Elizabeth nuper Reginae which he held on Mondaye the vth of October 1606. accordinglye M^r Tamworth beinge then present in the Courte pleadinge his Iniunction and M^r Warde on the townes behalfe the said order whereupon M^r Ward satt as Steward and the next Courte appoynted by M^r Maior that daye Saynytt. per me Will. Dethick.

LVII. Extract from letter from R. Pilkington

Hall Papers IV, No. 19. [Nov. 14, 1606.] Touching the writ of priviledge which was brought downe unto you in Mr Mabbs his cause and not allowed I informed Mr Recorder thereof and of the difference in the not admyttinge the same was no more but villa pro burgo he thinketh it was no cause of refusall of the allowance thereof But it is enformed here withall by Mr Winkall and Mr Puskyn that you Mr Maior and Mr Ward as Steward should (as it were) flyer and Jayre and scorne at the writ in great contempt and so an attachment is threatened upon an affidavit in this behalfe now it is hoped that neither your self nor Mr Ward wold either of you so demesne your selves in a matter of that ymportance and therefore I pracie you let this be remembered and called to mynd for defence makinge as occasion serveth.

[This probably refers to the conflict between Mr Mabbes and the Corporation with regard to Wightman's and Archer's land. He had various matters in dispute with them.]

LVIII. A Meeting of "Mr Mayor and others"

Hall Papers IV, No. 21. [Nov. 17, 1606.] Mr Lebbeus Chamberlyn Mayor, Mr Norice, Mr Heyrick, Mr Morton, Mr Ellis, Mr Nixe, Mr Newcom, Mr Gyllett, Mr Wilne. Before all theise Mr Pilkingtons Letter of the xiiijth of November 1606 was openly Readd and Mr Mabbs denyeth theise words written unto them by Mr Pilkington by his said Letter wh^ere are theise (But it is enfermed here withall by Mr Winkall and Mr Puskyn that you Mr Mayor and Mr Warde as stewarde shold (as it were) flyer and Jayre and scorne at the wrytt in greate contempt) which words Mr Mabbs saythe he will not nor cannot charge Mr Maior, nor Mr Warde as steward therewith, nor that they spake any suche words, or used any suche flyeringe, Jayre or scorninge at the said wrytt in contempt thereof, but that some in the Corte did, who (he saythe) he can not neame, and doth referr hym selfe unto his Letter written to Mr Winkall, and further beinge (by Mr Mayor) requested to sett his hand hereunto, refuseth the same.

LIX. Common Hall

Hall Book, p. 313. [Dec. 19, 1606.] Att this Comon Hall itt is agreed that the Tenants of the Graunge called Temples Graunge and of the four Yarde lands vicz Archers land and Wightmans land shall have their leases made accordinge to the division and order sett downe

and made by and under the hands of certen Comissioners appoynted for that cause And if Mr Mabbs for his part will accept of his Lease in the same sorte, then his to be soe made. And if hee will refuse that order, then the Towne vicz M^r Maior and the Comissioners to lett his part and portion thereof to some others.

LX. *Common Hall*

Hall Book, p. 313. [Jan. 30, 1606/7.] It is agreed that non of either of the Twoe Companies shalbee Compelled att anie tyme hereafter to paye towards anie playes, but such of them as shalbee then present at the saide playes (The Kinges Maiesties playors, the Queenes Maiesties playors, and the Younge prince his playors excepted) And alsoe all such playors as doe belonqe to anie of the Lordes of his Maiesties most honorable privie Counsell alsoe excepted to theise they are to paye accordinge to the Auncyent Custome, havinge Warnynge by the Mace bearer to bee att everye such play.

LXI. *Extract from letter from Mr Ward to Mayor*

Hall Papers IV, No. 54. [Feb. 4, 1606/7.] Sir * * theis are to certifie you that this day wee have had a hearinge for the mills wherein wee hope well And thus muche assure you that Sir Henrie and all other forrein millers shall have no more grist within the liberties of Leicester, but an Iniunction upon notice or complaint shalbe forthwith granted againste them And that the Inhabitants of Leicester must grinde at the Kings mills there where the are best used and not otherwise. Thus muche thought I good to give you a taste of But whether we shall have any order to this purpose (which wee earnestlie seek after) I cannot promise, but assure your selfe this is agreed and will not be denied.

LXII. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers IV, No. 62. [March 6, 1606/7.] Att this tyme thaccompnt of the Chamberlyns for Mr Thom' Chettell's yeare was openly Readd, and for that theire is manye defects therein, which is to be further considered of, therefore the said accompt is deferred to be better vewed and considered of untill after this next Assizes.

And there is Appoynhted there to examyne it further [*here follows a list of names, Robt. Heyricke (erased) and the rest illegible*].

LXIII. *Mr Chettell's Accounts*

Chamberlains' Accounts, 1594-1599. "Monday the xxth of Julye 1607. A meeting of certen of the Awdytors for Mr Thom: Chettells yere for the fynishinge of his Chamberlyns Accompt." Mr Noryce, Mr Ellys, Mr Newcome, George Brooke, William Vickers, W^m Hunte.

"Mr Mabbes wold not staye for the readinge of this accompt. This Accompte examyned, perfected, and Caste by the above named Audytors And the Towne founde in dett to the said late Chamberlyns in the somme of iiiij*l*. xvjs. xd.

And so referred to the Common Hall next to be holden."

[Summary of accounts 1605-1606.]

"Owing by Mr Chettell which he received of the Townes monye mencioned in this accompt liij*l*. xixs. iiid."

LXIV. *Common Hall*

Hall Book, p. 314. [March 20, 1606/7.] Att this Comon Hall is appoynted to make peticion of the grasse grownde onelie betwixte Wightmans land and Archers land (the foure Leyes whereupon the Wynde mylne doth stand excepted) and after the peticion made then thereupon to devide it into foure equall parts by Lott. And hee that shall refuse to take his part accordinge to this order and the former Orders in Mr Heyricks tyme then appoynted, Then he that refuseth the same order, his whole part and portion to bee thereupon in the Townes hands to lett to whom they will, And theise are appoynted to make this petition vicz Mr Gillot Mr Freake Mr Parker Mr Marshall Henry Palmer and Michaell Rudings or anie foure of them. And this peticion to bee made before Paulme Sondaie nexte.

It is alsoe agreed that the Chamberlyns that nowe bee and hereafter shalbe, shall collecte up all the Townes Rents whatsoever, and shall have Yeerlie for theire paynes xx*t* nobles A yeere with theire olde fee And all arrerages or Rents they or anie of them shall upon theire Accompte bringe in to be stopte upon theire saide fee.

LXV. *Assessment for subsidy in Bishop's Fee*

Hall Papers III, No. 695. [1605-1606.] It appeareth by the Roll of subsedye of the assessments of the inhabitants of the Borough of Leicester towards the first payment of the third subsidye granted Anno tertio Regis Jacobi Remayninge in the custodye of his highnes Remembrancer of the Exchequer that these persons hereunder written

were assessed towards the sayd first paymente of the third subsidye at the severall rates set downe upon them within Gartrie gate alias Bishopps fee; alias sometymes called the Suburbes within the sayd borough And that William Morton Collector within the sayd borough of the sayd paymente, was charged in his accompte with the severall taxacions assessed upon them, and hath payd his colleccion of the sayd paymente of subsidye into his Maties Receipt and thereupon hath finished his accompte.

* * * *

Leonard Dent in terris xls.—vs. iiijd.

Christopher Sutton in bonis iij*l*i**.—vs.

William Fowler in terris xxs.—ijs. viijd.

Alicia Fermer vid in bonis iij*l*i**.—vjs. viijd.

Thomas Hampton gen. in bonis iij*l*i**.—vs.

Thomas Parker in bonis iij*l*i**.—vs.

Robertus Greene in terris xxs.—ijs. viijd.

Reginaldus Fawsytt in terris xxs.—ijs. viijd.

Summa xxx*l*i**.

LXVI. *Petition of Company of Waits and Musicians*

Hall Papers III, No. 530. [No date.] To my singuler good masters the right worshipful Mr Maior and other his brethren be contynuall health.

In humble wise sheweth your poore Oratour and Servaunt George Ridgeley whereas your worships have admytted and allowed him and his Company to be the waytes and muscyoners for this Corporacion and theryn to have the benefitt gayne and pryeledge above all others of that Scyence notwithstandinge Thomas Poyner and his Company not only daylie intrude themselves to play before straungers at Common Innes but also at weddings and oftentymes have bene accepted and your Suppliants reiected by some of the Company to his dysgrace and greate hyndraunce Now for that your Complainants chyefest lyvinge and mayntennance lyeth within this Towne, and he verie willinge and readye at all tymes to shew his uttermost indeavour and best skill towards all menne; most humblye therfore intreateth your good worships (the premyses Consydered) to graunt unto your saide Orator that he and his Company hereafter maye gett the proffit and hould the prehemynence above all others, especially at all lawfull assemblies meetings and meryments of any the Company and other Inhabitants within this Burrough, to his more Creditt and better advaantage wherein neverthelesse as dutie byndeth I pray for all your prosperus longe lyves, and good successe in all things.

LXVII. Sabbath day regulation

Hall Papers IV, No. 1. [No date.] Theise whose names are her under written are desirose that ther shall be a order that no man shall keep shop too sell ane wars on the Sabothe Daye

Robert Heyricke	William Biller
James Andrewe	Thomas Brookes
Roger Cotes	Thomas Winbey
Richard Annables	John Heyricke
William Weldon	Edward Benskin
Richard Becke	Nycholas Gyllott
Thomas Eyrice	Henrye Osewyn
William Cater	Thomas Herick
Elizabeth Ward	George Shuttlewood
William Wimbe	Humfrey Thornton
Marye Wardly	Robart Stokes.
Anne Stanley	

LXVIII. Chamberlains' Accounts. 1605-1606

Receipts. Rents received for the whole Graunge, called the Newarke Graunge with thappurtenances And for the foure yarde Lande withoute hey, whereof two yarde Lande is called Wightmans Lande held in fee Simple. And the other Two yarde Lande is called Archers Lande which is holden in fee farm And for the wynde milne also bought of Mr Wightman Asfolloweth vicz.

Fyrste received of Mr John Chippingdale Doctor of Lawe, for the one halfe parte or moiety of the Graunge in his occupacion by Indenture from the Maior Bayliffs and Burgesses of the Borough of Leicester per annum *Lli.*

Item received of William Fowks gent for the olde Graunge howsse with thappurtenances and twoe yarde Land parcell of the Grange, And for one of the yarde Lands withoute meadowe, now in his occupacion per annum *xxli.*

Item received of Mr John Mabbs for Twoe Yarde Lande of the Grange land with thappurtenances and for one yarde Lande withoute meadowe in his occupacion per annum. *xxli.*

Item received of Mr Robertt Pilkington for Two yard Lande of the Graunge Lande withe thappurtenances and one of the yarde lands withoute meadowe per annum *xxli.*

Item received of Katheryn Abney for one yarde Lande of the

Graunge Lande with thappurtenances in her occupacion, and for one halfe yarde lande parcell of the foure yarde Lande withoute meadowe per ann *xli.*

Item received of Thomas Pollard for one yarde Lande of the Graunge Lande with thappurtenances and one halfe yarde Lande parcell of the iiiij yarde Lande without meadowe per annum *xli.*

Item received of Thomas Nurce and John Nurce Milners, for the milnes called the Newarke Millnes, parcell of the Graunge, in theire occupacion by Indenture per annum *xls.*

Item received of John Johnson Laborer for the halfe yeares rente of the howse called the Bull howsse in the Southe Gate, and due att the feast of the Annunciaciacion of the blessed Virgyn Marye (1606) *x.s.*

Item received of the said John Johnson for the halfe yeares rent of the said howsse called the Bull in the said Southe gate in his occupacion and due at Michaellmas (1606) *xxs.*

Item received of M^r Walter Hastings Esquier for A Close in the frithe neyre unto Leicester forrest, parcell of the said Graunge in his occupacion by Indenture per annum *xli.*

Item received of George Somerfeilde of Kirbye Muxlowe yeoman for one other close in the said frithe, neire the said forest of Leicester parcell of the said Graunge in his occupacion by Indenture per annum *xli.*

Summa Graunge Rents and of the iiiij yard Land without meadowe and of the wynde milne *Clixijli. xs.*

Other Rents de novo for lycense for drawinge of wynes in Leicester.

Item received of Raphe Chettell for his licence for drawinge of wyne in Leicester Quarterlye to be payde per annum *iiijli.*

Item received of William Ive and George Rowes vinteners for theire Lycense for drawinge of wynne in Leicester Aforesaid, Quarterlye to be payde, per Annum *iiijli.*

Other Rents Received for Certen Lande in Knighton in the Countie of Leicester As followeth vicz parcell of Mr Fowks Collection.

Item received of John Chamberlyn of Knighton for a messuage or tenemente, one yarde Lande ande one halfe yarde Lande and A parcell of Lande called fletchers Lande, with thappurtenances in Knighton Aforesaid, in his occupacion in fee farme per Annum *xvij.s. iiijd.*

Other Rents for twoe closes called the Vickers Closes parcell of the possessions of the late Colledge of the Newarke of Leicester in the Countye of Leicester, heretofore demised by our late Soveraigne Ladye

*Elizabeth to one Richarde Wylde for teerme of xxj*ii* yeares Expired att the feaste of the Annuncyacion of the Blessed Vergyn Marye (1606).*

Item received of Henrye Palmer for one Close neyre the Newarke Graunge, parcell of the said M^r Wylde his lease (in the occupacion of the said Henrye Palmer) in fee farm for the halfe yeaeres rente due at the feaste of St Michael tharchaungell (1606) xs.

Item received of William Cotton gent for one close neyre the Roode Dike (parcell of the said M^r Wylde Lease) and soulde in fee farme, for the halfe yeaeres rente due at the said feaste of St Michaell tharchangell (1606) vjs. viijd.

Summa xvjs. viijd.

Other Receipts.

Item receyved of John Allyn of Sylebye mercer for Lott and Scott in respect of his freedom ijs.

[Receipts of fines for leases.]

Item received of M^r Thomas Chapman and John Hynde for a fyne of A Lease of the Northe milnes for xxj yeres whereupon the yerely rent of xli. is reserved ccli.

Item received of Bowetts Croste for a fyne for a lease for xxj yeaeres for the sheepe pennes commensinge at Michaellmas or the Annunciation of our Ladye which shall fyrst happen after his mothers decesse, whereupon the yearelye rente of fortye marks ys reserved xxli.

Item received more of M^r Chapman, for the forbearinge of Cli. from the daye of the Bargayne untill the daye of payment.

Summa cccxxxviiijli. iijs. iiijd.

Payments.

Other Rents payd of now for the twoe closes, called the Vickers closes, Late parcell of M^r Wylde Lease.

[To Auditor and Receivor. xjs. To Auditor for Debenture. iiijd. To Auditor and Receivor for quittance. ijs. Item to M^r Fowks for messuage in Knighton xviijs. iiijd.]

Gifts of Wine, Rewards etc.

Item the xvij of October, pd for iij gallons of Clarett, etc given to the Ladye Elizabeth, the Kings Maties daughter at her beinge at Leycester with the Lord Harrington xviijs. viijd.

Item given the M^r of the Babons lycensed to travell by the Kings warrant ijs. vjd.

Item pd for wyne and suger given to M^r Newce the Receyver of the newe duchie lands at his receipt at the Angell upon the payment of the Ladye Daye Rents xvjd.

Item pd for wyne sent to the Abbye to Sir Henrie Hastings Knight, for his friendship abowte the Tole and other his frendshipp when Mr^r Mayor wentto him for the same ijs.

[*Payments to great persons.* Oct. 12 Lord Cromwell. Oct. 17 Earl of Shrewsbury. Nov. 20 Sir William Feeldinge. Aug. 27 Sir Francis Fortiscue and his Ladye. Aug. 30 Earl of Shrewsbury and Countess.

Payments to players. The Earl of Huntingdon's 16/-, the Queen's 40/-, Earl of Harford's 10/-, Lord Dudley's 20/-.

Expenses re Toll, Charter and Mills. Visit of Mayor and others to London and fees *re toll* £39. 12. 11. Visit of over a month to London on town suits (Hilary term) £51. 18. 2. Easter term—expenses in London £17. 17. 9. Trinity term—expenses £6. 9. 5. Total for charter, toll, and mills £115. 18. 3.

Expenses of commission on mills. Sir Henry Hastings *v.* Wiatt Fowler. Charge of lease of Gainsborough. Total £17. 14s.]

Account of money borrowed by the town now “taken uppe upon Interest” £244. 7s.

Item pd to Mr^r Thomas Maye of London gent taken uppe upon interest of hym, upon Mr^r Thomas Chapman Mr^r Thomas Warde and Mr^r William Heyricks bonde xxijth daye of June (1604) for the use of the Towne, Aswell to paye Mr^r William Heyricke of London goldsmith for the plate vicz. two silver standinge Cupps with Keyvers of Sylver all gilte wayinge ^{cc} iij ounces and one halfe ounce and more which cam to xxiiij*l.* ijs. iiijd. Given to the Queenes Mat^e and the younge Prynce Att there beinge in Leicester (commynge oute of Scotland) in the second tyme of the Mayraltye of Mr^r James Ellis. And mentioned in his Chamberlyns Accompt, but not payde for untill this yeare of the thirde tyme of the Mayraltie of Mr^r Robertt Heyricke As also for other needs of the townes and was due to have beene payde the xxvjth daye of december next after which was for vj moneths the some of Lxiiij*l.*

Item payde for the interest of the said iij iij*l.* from the said xxvjth daye of december (1604) untill suche tyme as the same was payde, which was after midsomer 1606. ^{xx}xli. xs.

Summa £73. 10s.

Reparacions.

Item pd for mendinge the Cuckstoole and for A corde for it xvjd.

Item pd to W^m Sheene for A poste for correction of Roagues ijs.

Item pd to Thomas Heyricke for Lathes and for neyles spent at the hawle at such time as the Queenes players were there ix*d.*

Fees, wages, etc.

Item given to John Burstall (a pore man) who had in Mr^r Mortons mayraltie a distres of pewter platters taken for not payinge the rent

of xijd. for Armytage howsse (he then being Archers tennant thereof) the said platters taken by the Chamberlyns but can not be proved who hath them. Allowed hym in Lewe thereof ijs. vjd.

Item pd for a quarter of a hundredth of Gunne powther, bought by Mr Norys (then deputie to Mr Maior) and other of the Magistrates appoyntment in the last greate pretended Treason Agaynst his Maties state xxxvijs. iiijd.

Item then payd for xij payre of flaske Strings vs.

Item then payd for vjld. of matche iijs.

Item then pd for mendinge of the Gunne powther barrell and 1 pounde of Candles xd.

Item pd to the neytheheard for blowinge his horne abrode in the towne at the tackinge of the Kye in the Cow hey ijs.

Item pd to goodwife Hartshorne for to departe quietlye oue of the Graunge howsse demysed to Mr Fowks xs.

Receipts £927. 7. 9*¶*. Payments £908. 2. 5*¶*.

LXIX. *Common Hall*

Hall Book, p. 315. [April 8, 1607.] First it is ordered and agreed that the Acte and order made att the last Comon hall holden upon frydaye the xxth day of March last past, for the makeing of a particion of the grasse grownd onelie betwixte Wightmans land and Archers land. (The four Leyes whereupon the wynde Mylne doth stande excepted) should bee parted by certen for that cause appoynted shoulde be by them parted by lott, And for that the same is nowe thoughte not to bee good and conveynient to bee parted by lott. Therefore it is agreed that the said Acte and Order be from henceforth repealed and made voyde.

LXX. *Meeting of the Twenty-four*

Hall Papers IV, No. 94. [April 29, 1607.] It is agreed that the leases to be made to the takers of the Graunge land and of the other iiij yard lands shalbe made accordinge to a devizion of the iiij yard lands made accordinge to the Commissioners devision and order sett and weare appoynted at a Common Hall the vj daye of Marche in Mr Heyricks last mayoralty and also for the pasture ground accordinge to a devision made by an order made April 1607.

LXXI. Post wages of Edward Benskin

Fee Farm Rents [1600-1650.] No. 185. Edward Benskin May the xiijth 1607. For my horse and myselfe xxxij myles to seeke Mr Edward Bonton hieshereve of Warwicke Shere with Letters from my Lord I was hired by Mr Lybyus Chamberlin to ride both night and day and to have poast wages which cometh to vis. vijd. I layd out iijs. upon a man for a guyde the wholle is ixs. vijd.

he that thinketh that it is to moch god send nether him nor myselfe erne money so hardlie.

LXXII. Papers relating to enclosure riots

Hall Papers IV, No. 101. [June 6, 1607.] Order from Lord Huntingdon. Mayor is to see to his stock of ammunition etc.

No. 100. [June 6, 1607.] Order from County Justices that a strong watch be kept in Leicester.

No. 103. [June 1, 1607.] List of names of those "gone out of" their respective wards. (110) Names of those "that went to Chatchbytch of Mondaye the firste of June 1607."

(112) Mr Norrice's ward. Names of those "thought to be at the casting in of the ditches."

No. 116. [June 10, 1607.] [Letter from Lord Huntingdon.]

Mr Maior I understand from my deputye Leutennants that the Gibbett which I comanded to be sett up in Leicester is contrarye to my mynd taken downe whereat I marvayle and your excuse for the same Childishe for that as you saye it was done by Children were not Leicester a place of government and to be governed by men of ripp age and not by the unruly stroke of youth, happely it myght be soe, but I rather thincke that some of greater poware then Children have done it and verye lykely through your remisenes but the certenty hereof I hope hereafter to be enformed of: had not I admonysht you of your carelesnes in some other your courses in theise troblesome tymes you might the easilare have erred but it appeareth nowe, you lightlye regarded the same. I am not forward to excepte against you accordinge to the occasione gyven which if I should it might be would little content you: for redresse and amendment of this fault I comande you as you tender his Maties service that presently you cause eyther the same or an other Gibbett to be agayn sett up and that there be better care had it maye stand untill my mynde be knowne for the take downe of the same. And withall that speedely you enforme me

of the names of those children or whatsoever they weare that pulled downe the same As you will answer the contrarye at your perill.

Your loving frend doing as you ought
Huntingdon.

No. 118. [1607.] *The exceptions that my Lord doth take against mee.*

The first is for the people goinge forth of the towne to Cast in the ditches.

The second is for want of the quantitie of gunpowder which his honnor expected to have beene in the Towne.

The third is that his honnor comannded a gibbitt to be sett upp and it was throwne downe against my will and knowledge.

Further more his honnor did cause mee to speake it uppon my owth whoe the weare that was the cause of the gibbitt taken downe.

Agayne I was comannded to stand bearhead while I was before his honnor.

No. 119. [Various dates, 1607. *Notes relating to the casting downe of the gibbett.*]

Tuesday and Wednesday the 22 and 23 of June 1607.

By the appointment of Sir Thom: Cave Knight one of the Deputie Leutennants the right hon: the Erle of Huntingdon Lord Leutennant we put and mustred and trayned fortie armed men for suppressing of the disordered riotous people assembled to lay open inclosed grounds which were dismissed as the Countie Soldiers were vicz to be readie upon xij howres warninge.

Saturday the 30th of Maye 1607.

The Justices of the Countie advised Mr Maior to be careful to keepe in the townsmen for goinge to the disordered people assembled for layinge downe inclosed grounds.

Saturdaye vj die Junii 1607. [Order from Lord Huntingdon received *re* provision of gunpowder and post horses No. 101.]

Also commanded from the Lorde Leutennant, by word of mouth by Sir W^m Skipworth Knight to Mr Maior to cause to be presentlye sett up in the markytt place of this towne of Leicester A giebbett for his Maties service etc. which was the same day done.

Also his honor sent iij Letters to Mr Maior, i to Lord Compton Lord Leutennant of Warwickshire and one other to the Sherif of Warwick and one other to Sir Edward Montague Knight, with Commandment presentlye to send theise letters with speede, which were done Saturdaye the 15 of June.

This daye the Erle of Huntingdon, Lord Leutennant of the Countie of Leicester etc. cam to Leicester and theire mett his honor, his deputie Leutennants and the Justices aboue the service of his Ma^{tie}. At which tyme his honor firste sent for M^r Heyricke and M^r Gillott. And afterwards, his honor, sent for M^r Maior to come to his honor, whereupon M^r Maior went to his Lordshipp accompanied with divers of his Bretherne the Aldermen vicz M^r Heyricke, M^r Morton, M^r Ellys, M^r Gyllott, M^r Bayllye. At which tyme M^r Maior, was receyved into his honors Chamber, but non of the residue of his Bretherne, were suffered to come to his Lordshippe. Att which tyme also M^r Maior (as he saythe) was sworne before his honor truely to answere to such Articles as should then be demaunded of hym concernynge the takinge downe of the Jebytt, which was before by his honors commandment, appoynted to be sett upp and then Maior have his hat commannded him to stand Bare headded all the tyme of his examynacion, which was aboue the space of one hower.

Also at evenyng before his honors departure oute of Leicester he caused M^r Maior and M^r Heyricke to come ageyne before his honor, and then after a longe protestacion of M^r Mayor's slacknes and Remysnes in his office in not strictly obeyinge and performinge his honors Commanndment, especiallye concernynge the takinge downe of the Gybbitt without his honors comanndment and in his remisnes for that he did not make dilligent enquire who did pull downe the said Gibbit, and did not comytt the offenders and cause the same to be presently sett upp ageyne, did command the said M^r Maior (for his punyshment in that behalfe) to keepe his howsse, withoute goinge out of it from this daye, untill the xxvijth of this present June next ensuyng. And if he did before that day goe oute of his howsse then he wolde commytt W^m Dethicke his Clarke to the gaole and would cause Irons to be layde on him.

Also at the same tyme his honor, did commytt M^r Heyricke in the same sort vicz to keepe his howsse duringe the said tyme, for that he (beinge the Alderman of the Ward wherein the said Gibbit was sett vicz on the Corne Wall) and did not cause the offenders to be appreyhended and punyshed, and cause the same Gibbit to be sett upp ageyne. And further his honor said to M^r Maior, upon his inioynynge hym to keepe his howsse, that duringe that tyme he should appoynte a deputye to execute his office, and said withall that when he did goe to London aboue his own busynes, he did then appoynt a deputye and so he should do nowe.

Nos. 134, 135, 135 a. [Various dates 1607. Another statement of Mayor's case.]

1. *Sayturdai the xxxth of Maye 1607.*

The Justices of the Countie advised Mr Maior to bee carefull to keepe in the Townsmen for goinge to the disordered people assembled for Leyinge downe inclosed grounds. Whereupon Mr Maior comannded the Aldermen and Constables to sett an extraordynarie watche and warde for that purpose. And gave speciall Commanndment to everye howsse holder to be carefull of his people, Notwithstandinge uppon Sondaie in the eveninge dyvers Townsmen walking abroade in ordynarie shoe of recreacion went fourth of the Towne, and after in the nighte went to the said disordered people whereof Mr Maior beinge advertised, and certefyng the Justices hee was advised by them, to send some of the Aldermen to perswade the Townsmen backe againe, which they did accordinglie, meetinge dyvers of them uppon the waye comynge home, and the most parte of them they found theire, they perswaded to come home back againe.

2. *Tuesdae the seconde of June 1607.*

By the appoyntment of Sir Thomas Cave Knighte one of the Deputye Leutennants of the right hon: the Earl of Huntingdon Lord Leutennant, we mustered and trayned that daie and the next fortie Armed men for suppressinge the said disordered people which wee dismissed as the Countrie soldyars weare, vicz to be readie uppon xij owers warninge.

3. *Sayturdai the v^{te} of June.*

Wee received his Lordshipps precepts to provide and have in rediness, within tenn daies ccc li waight of Gunpowder, and the like quantitie of Matche and a Competent proporcion of muskett and Calyver shott, and to have the like quantitie from tyme to tyme within viij daies in readiness att our towne hall, to bee delyvered to his Lordshippe or his deputie for his Mat^{ies} service for the Countie upon reasonable price And allso vj post horses to be contynuallie kepte by us in rediness for his Mat^{ies} service which we have done accordinglie.

4. Allsoe the same daie uppon his Lordshipps Commaunde we presentlie sett upp a Gibbitt in the Markett place.

5. Allso the same daie upon his Lordshipps Commaunde we sent severall Letters vicz one to the right hon: Lord Coumpton Lord Leutennant of Warwickshire, one other to the Sheryfe of the same shire and the other into Northamptonshire to Sir Edward Montague Knight.

6. Allso the same daie * * * we provided a Trumpeter an A horse for him, and agreed by his Lordshipps command to give him 4s. a daie; whoe hath beene nowe out uppon our charge by the space of theise vij daies past.

7. Allso the same daie * * * we did instantlie provide and putt in Armes 60 townsmen which by his Lordshipps like Comaundment we conducted by two of our Aldermen after his Lordshipp towards Well[am] untill they mett his Lordshipp retorning whome they attended backe the same nighte to the town of Leicester where they were discharged.

8. Allso the same daie att night uppon his Lordshipps Deputies precepts we sett a stronge watche, vicz to the number of one hundred men at the least, whereof dyvers were Aldermen and of the xlviij^{ti} for outgate or ingate without Lycense of his Lordshipps deputie Leuitennants and a daie warde of halfe the number.

9. *Sondaie the vijth of June.*

M^r Maior and his Bretherne did attende his honor to the Churche att which tyme his Lordshipp tooke the better hande of M^r Maior and in the Sermon while sent worde to M^r Maior his Lordshipp was offended, M^r Maior shoulde carrie uppe his Mace in his Lordshipps presence.

10. *Mondaie the viijth of June.*

Memorandum the said Gibbett as we nowe heare and creadable believe to bee true, was pulled down in this manner vicz the same beinge A raynye morninge and thereuppon little companye stirringe Samuel Besweeke the Town Gaoler, of his owne foolish mocion with his underkeeper and one of his Prisoners did digge aboute and loosen the said Gibbett, and after dyvers boyes and Lewde people did swey and pull the same allmost to the Grounde which M^r Maior hearinge of Commannded the said Besweeke to sett uppe the same againe presentlie, which he then promised, and neclected, and after in the eveninge fearinge the same shoulde be stoulne or cut in peeces it was carried and leyde in M^r Mabbs yarde And upon Wensdaie M^r Maior forced the said Besweeke to sett the same upp againe where it is nowe standinge, and shall contynewe durante his Hon: pleasure Notwithstanding M^r Maior received his Lordshipps Letters on thursday night comanndinge him for redresse and amendment of his negligence therein presentlie to cause the same or Another to be sett upp and to informe his Lordshipp of the names of the pullers down thereof.

11. *Saturdaie the xiijth of June.*

His Honor first sent for Mr Heyricke and Mr Gillott reprovinge them for goinge to admonishe the Townsmen to repayre home from the said disordered people which was done by direccion of the Justices of the Countie as aforesaide. And after for Mr Maior whoe went accompanied with Mr Heyricke, Mr Morton, Mr Ellice and Mr Bayllie, att which tyme Mr Maior onlie was received into his Honors Chamber and the dore presentely Locked uppon him, not sufferinge anie of the said Bretherne to come in with him, and as Mr Maior saith his hatt was taken from of his heade, and caused to stande bare while he was in his honors presence, which was by the space of one howre, and not admitted to speake uppon his Creadite, but examyned upon othe concerninge the pulling downe of the said Gibbett.

12. And after, the same daye, att eveninge, his Lordshipp sent for Mr Maior, Mr Heyricke and Mr Dethicke, and after dyvers advertisements of Mr Maiors remisnes in generall, and Mr Heyrickes as Alderman of that warde wherein the Gibbett stooode did comannde Mr Maior (for his punishment in that behalfe) to keepe his howse without goinge out of itt, untill the xxvijth daie of this presente June, and if hee did, then his Honor said hee woulde comitt the said Dethicke to the Gaole. And the like to Mr Heyricke to keepe his howse, and not to goe out from itt duringe the said tyme. And further for Mr Maior his honor comannded him to appoyn a Deputie to execute his office duringe the tyme of this restraynte whoe thereuppon remayne prisoners in their owne howsses accordiglie.

13. *Item:* the said Samuell Besweeke hath bene examined before his Lordshippe and is att Libertie. And Raphe Egerton our Beadle and some others examyned about the said Gibbitt are committed by his Lordshippe to the Countrie gaole, where they nowe remayne.

W^m Morton

John Willne

James Ellys

Thomas Ward.

Thomas Nix

[Hall Papers IV, No. 152. [No date.] The names of those that went out of Leicester in Royetous and Rebellious manner to Cotsebridge:]

John Russell

Thomas Seawell Painter

John Browne

William Grase Dew

Theise foure to be especially sent unto me, and for the other foure I leave it to your discretion Mr Maior which of theise underwritten you will presse and send me which went out of your town to pouch.

List of 32 names.]

LXXIII. Common Hall

Hall Book, p. 315. [Aug. 13, 1607.] First itt is Agreed and Ordered that from henceforth noe person or persons whatsoever shall wyndowe anie Corne within anie the streets within this Borough of Leicester upon Payne of vs. for everie defaulte To bee paide by the owner of the saide Corne or grayne to the use of the Chamber of the Towne; And for defaulte of payment thereof to the Chamberlyns of the Towne of Leicester The partie Offendor to bee Comitted to ward there to remayne untill hee will paye the same.

Alsoe the Accompte for Mr Chettells yeere (excepte the debte therein mencioned owinge by the saide Mr Chettell late Maior) now allowed and Agreed upon.

LXXIV. Common Hall

Hall Book, p. 323. [Nov. 20, 1607.] Also it is further ordered and agreed that from henceforth there shall not be any Stranger made a freeman of this Borough of Leicester under the some of *xli.* upon Payne of the Chamberlins that doe admit any under that somme to forfeit so much out of theire owne purses as they shall abate of the same somme of *xli.*

LXXV. Common Hall

Hall Papers IV, No. 194. [Jan. 20, 1607/8.]

A question propounded by Mr Maior whether this hall will accept of my Lord and the Justices offer * * * for the Agreement for [Tole] yea or no, which offer was to have the halfe, they that Agree to have halfe Are noted thus, viz. (ye) and they that will not Agree thereunto are noted thus (no).

Nota my lords offer is the Cuntrye shall bare halfe of the composcion, and the £10 already collected of the Cuntrye and spent in that sute to be made up to £20 and the Towne of Leicester bare the other halfe holding that £20.

There is—xxix that have Agreed to the Composcion.

There is—xxii that doe not Agree thereunto.

Further question nowe propownded by Mr Maior how to provide monye to discharge the Townes Composcion.

It is agreed to make a Sessment to the value of £60 in this manner viz: the Company of the xxiiij £20, the Company of the xlviij other £20, and the Commons other £20.

Item it is nowe fully Agreed that yf the Cuntrye will beare two parts of the Agreement for the said Composcion the Towne is agreed to beare and paye the third parte of the said Composcion.

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LXXVI. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers IV, No. 69. [March 8, 1607/8.] Item it is now ordered and agreed that the Acte and Order made at the laste Common Hall houlden upon Frydaie the xxth daie of Marche last paste for the makinge of a particion of the grasse grounde onelye betwixt Wightmans land and Archers leyland (the iiiij leys whereupon the Wynd Mylne dothe stande excepted) should be parted by certen for that cause appointed shouldbe by them parted by lott and for that the same is now thought not so good and conveynyent to be parted by lot therefore it is nowe agreed that the said Acte and order be from henceforth repealed and made voyde. And it is nowe further ordered and agreed that all the said Grasse grounde onelye belonginge to Wightmans Land and Archers Land shalbe presentlye hereafter parted and devyded indifferentlye by those whose names are hereunder wrytten (the iiiij Leys whereupon Nurses Wynd mylne dothe stand upon onelye [excepted]). And after that particion and division thereof bee by them equallye made then they or the greater parte of [*illegible*] apporcionment everye of the tennants parte and [*illegible*] accordinge to theire diskreacions withoute any further lott [*illegible*] particion thereof to be made And everye one of the tennants that shall refuse to take his parte according [to this] order and the former orders in Mr Heyricks tyme then appoynted then he and they that refusethe the same [*illegible*] then his wholl parte to be in the Townes hands to let to whom they wyll.

LXXVII. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1606-1607*

[Accounts alter. 1st. Short summary of the normal accounts—Rents of Assize, Tatams Collection. 2nd. Long and detailed account of receipts from College of Blessed Virgin.—This is merely summarised in later years.]

"Other rents of the Lands tenements and possessions sometime belonging to the Late Colledge of the Blessed Marie the Virgyn over Ageynst the Castle of Leicester. And of the whole Tythes, Easter duties, mortuaries, and chief rents belonging to the said late Colledge, And heretofore demysed by our said Late Soveraigne Ladye Queene Elizabeth, by Indenture under the Duchie Seale to one Edward Holte Esquier decessed, for Terme of xxj^{ti} yeares expired at the feast of St Michaell tharchannzell (1606) And by her Ma^{tie} given and granted

to the Maior, and Burgesses of Leicester and theire Successors (emongst other things) in fee farm for ever, The particulers whereof doe hereafter followe."

[This covers 9 pages—the more interesting extracts are given below.]

Item rec: of the said William Cotton for a close withoute the West Bridge, called the *Wye close* in his occupacion in fee farm per annum viii.

Item rec: of Robertt Heyricke glover for a messuage or tenement and a garden thereto adjoynynge, neyre unto the west gate, and for a howsse called the Chappell upon the said West Brigge, in his occupation in fee farm per annum xiiis. iiiid.

Item rec: of Henrye Palmer for the herbage of the Churche yarde of Sayncte Maries in Leicester in his occupacion by Indenture per annum xx.

Item of the said Henrye Palmer for the tithe haye and herbage yearelye growing, increasinge and beinge, and to growe increase and bee, upon Burges meadowe, Marye meadowe, Sowthe feelds and the Tytheable meadows beyonde the Newarke milnes, in his occupation by Indenture per annum vii.

Item of Mr Robertt Heyricke, for all the Tythes and vicariall tenthes, herbages and other duties whatsoever due or of Right belonginge unto the said late Colledge and parcell of Danetts Hall, Walche hall, and Marye milne Holme in his occupacion by Indenture (except as in the said Indenture is excepted) per annum vii. xiiis. iiijd.

Item rec: of Walter Ruding gent, for all the tithes and vicariall tenthes herbage and other duties, due or of right belonginge unto the said late Colledge for or oute of all and singuler the Grownds and parcells of lande nowe parcell of Westcotts, in his occupacion by Indenture (except as in the said Indenture is excepted) per annum vii.

Item rec: of Thomas Overend Chandler for a peece of a close neire plancke Well in his occupacion att will per annum ii.

Item rec: of Thomas Smythe milner and carpenter for a gardyn in Bawdewyn Lane or Silver Street in the saide parishe of St Nicholas, lately by hym Builte upon in his occupacion by Indenture per annum iijs. iiijd.

Item of Mr Nathaniell Sampson, for St James Chappell and the Chappell yarde with the appurtenances in his occupacion in fee farm per annum xxvis. viiid.

Item rec: of Thomas Jesson Clarke Stypendarie mynster of and for the paryshe of Sayncte Maryes in Leicester, for the Easter Booke of the said St Marie parishe, And for the tithe pigge and crysoms as

Rycharde Normand had them. And for the mortuaries happenyng in the said parishe, per annum, yearelye upon Tuesdays in Easter weeke xls.

Other receipts or duties for herbage Lammas Tithes, and other duties, due oute of divers Grownds in St Maries parishe and to the late Colledge of the Virgin Marie over ageynst the Castle of Leicester belonginge And are to be yearely paid at Lammas viz.

Item rec: of the said Henrye Palmer for a close neire S. James Chappell called Archers Close per annum xiid.

Item of M^r Sampson for St James chappell yarde per annum xiid.

Item rec: of Christopher Sutton for M^r Greenes Close neire St James Chappell per annum xiid.

Item rec: of William Ludlam for ii closes nowe in one over ageynst S. James Chappell per annum xxid.

Item rec: of John Overend for M^r Mortons close neire St James Chappell per annum xd.

Item rec: of hym for one other close at parradice, Late in M^r Mabbs tenure per annum iiijd.

Item rec: of M^r Wm Morton, for the Tippett per an. xiiis. iiijd.

Item rec: of Doctor Chippingdale for the Tythinge of his part or moietie of the Grannge in his occupacion per annum xxiiis.

Item rec: of M^r Mabbs, M^r Pilkington, M^r Fowke, M^r Thomas Pollard and Paull Abney for the Tythinge of theire parte or moietie of the said Granngs per annum xxs.

Item rec: of the said M^r Mabbes and M^r Fowke for the Tythinge of Archers ii yard lands per annum iis.

Item rec: of M^r Pilkington, Thomas Pollard and Paul Abney for the tythinge of Wightmans ii yarde lands per an. iis.

Item rec: of Sir Henrie Hastings Knight for the tithe of the castle Milnes withe the homes per annum vis. viiid.

Item rec: of Thomas Nurce for his parte of the tithe of the Newarke milnes per annum viiis.

Item rec: of John Nurce for his part of the same milnes per annum viiis.

Sum. viii. viiis. ixd.

Chief rents, cocks, capons, hennes received and yearely due at the feast of St Michaell Tharchangell and belonging to the said Late Colledge of the blessed Virgin Marye over ageynst the said Castle of Leicester and parcell of the said fee farm.

Item rec: of W^m Ludlam bocher for his howsse in the highe streete late Durrants Land per annum iiijd. ob.

Item for the Barbican in the castle of Leicester per annum xiid.

Item of Mr Nixe for a gardyn in hotgate iid. and for a henne iid.
in toto vid.

Item of Sir William Skipwith Knight for Staples land vid. And
for his howsse in the Swynes markitt, late the Earle of Huntingdons
 xd. in toto xvid.

Sum of all receipts £553. 12. 9 $\frac{3}{4}$.

Dekeys or Supers or other duties behynd and unpayde.

Imprimis Mr John Woodford for a gardyn and a dovecote nowe
the Sayturdaye markett or Ironmonger Lane lyinge upon the Towne
wall and Towne Ditche, not paid to the Chamberlains because there is
a lease thereof made to the said Mr Woodford under the Duchie Seal,
and is fudarye land.

Item pd to the said Auditor and Receyver att the saide awditt
for one *Mawlte Mylne* called the *horse mylne* in the said Swynes
market.

Guifts of Wine, rewards, and other things.

Item in June, paid for one pottell of Clarett wyne and one quarter
of Sacke given to the Justices when they mett, at Leicester abowte
the appreyhencion of the Rebellious people unlawfully assembled to
over throwe inclosed grownds.

Item vith of June given to one that brought worde from Shawell
that one Mr Rychard Elkington had given to the towne of Leicester
to be put out to pore tradesmen or craftsmen from yeare to yeare for
ever upon good sureties fyftie pounds, one quarter of white wyne
 viid.

Item the xxvth of June pd for a pottell of Sacke and one pottell
of Clarett wyne, given to the Judges at theire beinge in Leicester to
hold a prystie Sessions abowte the unlawfull assemblye for Leyinge
oppen of Inclosures iiis.

Item paid for halfe a pownde of sugar, etc. when the messenger
served proces of Mr Maior to goe to London before the Lords of the
Council abowte Raphe Chettells drawinge of wyne.

Item then geven the messenger which he dyd saye was his fee ijjli.

[Payments to great persons. Oct. 30 The Ladie Elizabeth. July 9th Justices of
Assize. July 27 Countesses of Derby and Huntingdon and Earl of Huntingdon.
Aug. 27 Earl of Shrewsbury.

Payments to Players. Queen's Players 30/-.

Charges in Law suits Castle Mills. Total £88. 24.]

The Plague.

First paid to two women aboue the xxiiith of September which were appointed to serche Henry Stanfords daughter, who departed at Mr Nixes howsse wheyther it weare the sicknes or not xijd.

Item paid ij men for watchinge the vizited howsses on one daye xiid.

Item payd for Settinge crosses on the doors of the vizited howsses id.

The charge of Thomas Stapleford beinge sente to howme in Lincolnshire to our Mr Willyam Mote a fezition to gett hym to cum over to Leicester, whoe was not at whom.

Sowldiars.

Other payments and charges abowte the suppressinge of the unruly people abowte the leyinge open of inclosed grownds.

First the second daye of June paid for Bullitts iis. iiiid.

Item pd to the fletcher for dressinge of the towne boes and for ij dozen of bowe strings iiis.

Item pd to xl soldyars for theire presse monye xiiis. iiijd.

Item pd to the said xl soldyars towards theire charges for one daye xxss.

Item payd for one dozen of poynts then used to tye on the armor.

Item the vith of June pd to the fletcher for Boe strings xiiid.

Item the said vi daye of June, pd to xlii^{ti} harnest men which weare appoynted the same daye beinge Saturdaye, to go to Wellam at the commandment of the Lord Lieutenant to suppresse the lewde people theire assembled to ley open the inclosed grounds xxis.

Item paid more for Boe strings xiiid.

Item paid to Roger Cotes mercer for ii barrells of gunpowder bought by hym at London for the use of the town by the commandment of the Lord Lyvetenant and for the charge in brynginge the same downe from London as dothe appeyre by a bill xli. xs.

Item pd for the charge of Mr Heyricke, Mr Gyllott who by appoyntement of the deputies of the Lorde Lyvetenant went to Lutterworth to admonyshe the people of the towne of Leicester, who were gone to Cottisbitche to helpe or see the unlawfull assemblye there mett to throe oppen the inclosed grownds theire and theire abowte xs. ivd.

Item payd to a messenger who was sentto London a foote with letters to the Recorder when Mr Maior and Mr Heyricke weare commanded by the Lorde Livetenant to keepe their howsses, for that the Jebytt was taken down with his lordships commandment viiis.

Item pd to Francis Palmer Carpenter and others for making of a Gobbytt which was by commandment of the Lord Livefetenant sett uppe upon the corne wall in the open market place in Leicester, for and concernynge the said rebbellyous people ii.

Item pd for the charges of Chamberlyn Walker to London, in London, and from London with letters to Mr Recorder Concernynge the commyttinge or commandinge of Mr Mayor and Mr Robert Heyricke to keepe their owne howsses, by the commandment of the Earle of Huntingdon, Lord Lyueftenant of the Countye of Leicester, withoute departinge from their before they had his honors lycense for their libertie, for that the said Jebitt was taken downe, withoute his honors warrant in that behalfe xis. iiiid.

Item pd for watchinge of the Jebytt, for beinge taken downe withoute lycense of the said Earle iiiid.

Item pd for takinge downe of the said Jebytt, by warrant from the said Earle iiiid.

Item pd to George Shittlewood for xi bowstrings xxiid.

Summa charges of Soldyars xxvili. xviiis. id.

Reparacions.

Item pd to Mr Roberte Heyricke for x brode square stones to make a table which is sett in the wawll on the free schoole to sett in the names of the benefactors of the said schoole vis.

Item the xi of August pd to Nashe for the woodd and workmanshipp in making of the bentche under the Elme Tree in the Saturday markett xxid.

Fees wages and other payments.

Imprimis payde to Mr Lebbeus Chamberlain for his fee xiiiil. vis. viiid.

Item paid to Sir Augustine Nicolls Knight, Sergiant at Law Recorder of the Borowe of Leicester, for his fee xl.

Item paid to Mr Sacheverell our preacher for his yearlye sallerye xxxli.

Item paid to William Dethick Clarke of the Peace for his fee vis. viiid.

Item paid to the Towne Clarke for his yerelye sallarie or wage xxvis. viiid.

Item paid to the head Usher of the Grammor Schoole in Leicester for his yearlye sallarie or wage given by the late Queen Elizabeth xli.

Item paid to the under Usher to the said Schoole for his wage

given by Sir Raphe Rowlatt Knight decessed, owte of his manor of Threadingworth *iii*l.* vi*s.* vii*d.**

Item paid more to the said under Usher given for that use by Mr Thomas Clarke decessed by his last will and testament owte of a gardyn of his, near the west gate, adioyinge to the Sore, for one yeares annuytie ended at Michaelmas (1607) *xx*s.**

Item given to the said Usher more by Chamberlyn Waller of his own accord withoute consent of a common hall *xx*s.* que....*

Item pd to Edmund Huntt the Armorer for dressinge and keepinge cleyne the towne Armes, Gunnes muskitts and suche other furnyture and munycion *xx*s.**

Item pd to William Myddleton for the fetchinge of a grēate pott from Glenfyld, agaynst Mr Mayors feaste, and for the carryinge of it whom ageyne *iii*s.* o*ld.**

Item the xiiijth of January pd for ij lardge obligacions wherein Job Lowder Standethe bounden to the Mayor Bayliffs and Burgesses in [blank]. That his tennants in St Maires Close, shall not bee chargeable to the Inhabitants of S. Maries parishe, nor to the Towne of Leicester *i*s.* vid.*

Item paid for a Leyther Bagge to keepe in the Towne Waight for the wayinge of Breade and Butter *vid.*

Item the xiiijth daye of Februarie (1606) payd for the charge of Mr Hunter John Walthall and Roger Halfytt, whoe weare by the Appoynment of Mr Maior and his Bretherne sent to Asheby Delazouche to the younger Countis of Huntingdon, to present a geldinge to her Ladyshipp from the Corporacion, but not receyved *xii*s.* vii*d.**

Item the xviith of Maye, payd to Roger Halfytt for keepinge his geldinge, xii weekes by the appoynment of Mr Maior and his bretherne, in hope the Countys wolde have accepted of hym, after he was first sentto her Ladyshippe *x*s.**

Item the xi of Aprill, payd to Thomas Ensor, for a true and parfitt rental of all the lands tenements and possessions belonginge to the late dissolved colledge of the blessed virgyn Marye over ageynst the Castle of Leicester, And for his assistance in helpinge and parfettinge of the Chamberlyns, for the gaytheringe and collectinge uppe of the Rents, Tythes, Cheefe Rents and other Duties belonginge to the same late Colledge *x*li.**

Item pd for the hier of ij horses, the one for Mr Maior and the other for his Sergiant, to ryde on into the Forrest, to meete the Countis of Darbye, the Earle of Huntingdon, and the Countis of Huntingdon, a huntinge (not allowed).

Item paid to Roger Halfitt, for his keepinge of a geldinge, which before, the Towne had bought of hym, to give to the Countis of Huntingdon, the which geldinge was sent over to Ashebye to her Ladishippe but was refused and sent backe ageyne, and therefore allowed unto him for the keepinge and acceptinge of the geldinge ageyne xls.

Item paid to George Longley paynter stayner, in parte payment of and for the paynetinge and settinge oute in colers, of the Kinges armes of newe which dothe stand upon the East Gate ls.

[Receipts £927. 7. 9.

Payments £912. 18. 8.]

Remaining on the foote of their account £14. 9. 1.

LXXVIII. *Borough of Leicester versus John Okes*

Charters Letters Patent, etc. 100.

John Okes, gent, claimed the right to levy toll in Leicester. The claim was tried in the Duchy Court 1608.

The borough claimed freedom from toll and denied that the right to levy toll was entailed on Henry Duke of Lancaster.

The Court (*a*) found no evidence of the entail, (*b*) declared that Leicester had in fact been free from toll and (*c*) that no details had been proved to show how much, in what manner and on what things toll had been taken. It finally declared that there was no cause to alter its former decree. Leicester fairs and markets were declared free and the defendants were dismissed.

LXXIX. *Orders regulating the sale of Barley*

Hall Papers IV, No. 239. [June 1, 1608.] (Statute of 39 Eliz. and "Book of Orders appointed by his Mat^e dated the first day of June 1608.")

First wee thincke it fitt to restrayne all persons (that have other meanes to live) from buyinge of Barley to Convert into Maulte, as husbondmen Tradesmen and others which have heretofore boughte.

And those persons which wee doe allowe tobuye barley to Convert into Maulte shall do itt sparingly; and not to buye any barley till the latter end of the market, that the poore and others which buye for provizion of breade maye bee first served.

The allowinge of some to buye the overplus will incourage the husbondman and others that bringe Corne out of other Countys where it is cheaper to our markitts for if all should bee restrayned from buyinge then fewer woulde come to the marketts to sell and soe make the markitts lesse and cause them to make theire markitts at home as wee have knowne by former experience.

LXXX. *Letter from Lord Huntingdon*

Hall Papers IV, No. 226. [June 1, 1608.] After my hartie Comendacions since your being with me I have considered with my selfe what number I thinke fitt shoulde goe out of your Towne into Ireland for his Ma^{ties} service viz Eight. Fowre whearof yf the be now inhabiting in the towne I have expressed in the beginning of this inclosed note The other to be taken out of the number of theise therein also underwritten or any other the which you imagine are the aptest to runne into any badd accion. I leave it to your discreacion what tyme to give notice to theise parties, so they be at Ashbye without faile upon Tuesday the Seaventh of this instant June. And so hoping you will have a great care in the due performance hereof In haste I comitt you to God.

Your loving friend
Huntingdon.

LXXXI. *Letter to Mr W^m Morton at Leicester*

Hall Papers IV, No. 230. [June 3, 1608.] After my hartie Comendacions etc. I have noted vj parsons towards your viij which you are to send to my Lord, for the other ij I leave for choyce to your selfe and Mr Dethicke, butt see they fitt fellows for this present service And see them safelie presented to my Lorde either by the Chamberlins, or somme other whom you shall appoynte to Ashbye. I have sent your letter and the note herein closed back againe therefore I praye you see that they be all viij readie to Attend my Lord: accordinge to the Daye of theire goinge till Sondaie night or Mondaye morninge lest they should startawaye.

Your loving friend
Thomas Chapman Maior

Vij die Junii (1608) sentto the Earle to Ashbie for Ireland.

	presse monye		presse monye
John Russell	iiijd.	Michaell Tiais	iiijd.
John Browne Junior	iiijd.	Samuell Fletcher	iiijd.
John Wykkinson	iiijd.	Barthollomewe Harriel	iiijd.
Thom: Tayllor	iiijd.	Edward Wykkinson	

[No. 234, June 7, 1608. Letter from M^r Morton to Lord Huntingdon concerning the men chosen. He says "Saywell the Painter he is now gon from Leicester." His Mother is a poor widow.

Saywell was one of the four riotous persons chosen out specially to be sent to Lord Huntingdon at the time of the Enclosure riot. Cf. No. 152, p. 64.]

LXXXII. *Letter from Lord Huntingdon*

Hall Papers IV, No. 267. [Sept. 28, 1608.] Mr Heyricke how desierouse I am to bee at peace with youre Towne, my often sendinge unto you to that end can testifie Neverthelesse I see my offers are not acceptable in youre Judgements I understande by my Servant Harvey that your towne woulde give me xxxli. and procure theire Charter. Soe as you leave me the Stewardshippe and Bayllieweke as hath been resolved uppon, Satisfie my uncle Harrington, and leave out the Countrye Tradesmen, and give them bonde not any waise to molest them, they payinge you xijd. everie yeere I am well Contented to accepte of the same And doe expecte your answere speedelie. And soe with my commendacions I reste

Your verie lovinge freinde
Huntingdon.

[No. 248. Aug. 8, 1608. A memorandum of Common Hall says "unles the Towne wolde suffer the Cuntrye Artisants to traffique in Leicester on Markett dayes for xijd. A yeare—iijd. a quarter without any fyne" Lord Huntingdon would oppose the charter.]

LXXXIII. *Letter relating to the Musters*

Hall Papers IV, No. 287. [Oct. 23, 1608.] Good M^r Maior I hear it reported that you intend to alter most of [illegible] trayned soldiers of your towne: If you have changed so many of them as was nedefull when the muster master stayed with you according to our meanes and appoynment for that purpose and for the vew of the armes, it is very well but if that alteration be not yet made then lett mee advise you to lett it rest till you have made my Lord Leifennant acquaynted therewith and have his direction and warrant for the same or otherwise some of us, which have authoretie from my Lord be present with you: for it is somewhat dangerous to meddle with matters of musters and levieng of men without good warrant if it should be looked into and excepted agaynst; herein I wishe you to doe no other wayes then I wold doe my selfe in the like case.

Your very loveing frend
William Turpyn.

[No. 264. Sep. 10, 1608. An order from Lord Huntingdon to summon the musters.]

LXXXIV. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers IV, No. 303. [Dec. 23, 1608.] Everye Alderman in his warde and his Constable to searche his warde from tyme to tyme for straungers which are not of good habytt cum oute of the Countrye theire to dwell, to cawse them to be presentlye afterwards sente oute of the Towne agayne upon payne that the Alderman makinge default there for euerye defaulte to forfyt lose and paye to the Chamberlain of the Towne xs. and the partie which shall Receyve suche in his howse or any part thereof to forfyt for everye defaulte xx.s. and the old acts fee the same to be putt in force agayne.

It is nowe agreed that the old bonds of they there tenants of that parte of the Grannge called Temples Graunge for defacing ther houses thereof shallbe putt in Jayle so as Mr fflowke be satisfied accordinge to a former order.

LXXXV. *Letter from Mayor to Recorder concerning the Charter*

Hall Papers IV, No. 200. [Feb. 2, 1608/9.] Sir accordinge to your Worships Letter I cauled a hall this daye and their caused your Letter to be redd which was to this ende, that my lorde wolde give no passage to our Charter, unles his honour might have bothe the Stewardshippe and the Baylliwicke to him and his heires males of his Bodye and for want of heyres males of his bodye with a remaynder to the heires males of his Two Bretherne. The answere of the wholl hall was in generall, not to goe any further than to the heires males of my Lorde, for they saye, my Lorde was once contented, to accept of the Stewardshipp onlye, and nowe havinge this Addicion of the Baylliwicke, they hope it will content his honour, for further I can not procure them to yelde. And as concernynge the Toll, they weare in good hope, that sixe score pounds wold have bread a good content to Mr Lister and Okes and brought us whom A new patent of the whiche somme Leycester wowlde willinglye have borne the thirde parte (notwithstandinge all the costs and charges in suyte of lawe, they have beene att, which is a hundred pounds at the Leaste) to have bought theirre owne quietnes, and to have done theirre Countrye good and seeinge it is not well accepted of Lister and Okes, nor had in no better Regard of our Countrye, they are Contented they suyte goe forwards fawlinge which waye it will; Sayinge, if wee holde it, by oure suyte, it is the Cuntries good, and if wee Lose it, it is not muche oure hurte. Thus havinge fullye possessed you with the mynde of the hall, I Leave you.

LXXXVI. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1607-1608*

Item the viiith daye of October (1607) receyved of Sir William Gee Knight executor of the laste wyll and testament of the worshipfull Mr William Gee late of Kingston upon Hull Merchant decessed by thands of Mr Samuell Culverwell Clarke which was given and bequeathed by the said Mr Gee decessed to the Maior and Corporacion of the towne of Leicester, towards the mendinge of highe wayes in the towne of Leicester, the some of xls.

Item received of the xxiiijtⁱ, xlviijtⁱ and Commons, towards the charge of the vizited people in Leicester the some of iijs. iiijd.

Guyfts of Wyne Rewards etc.

Item the xxvth daye of Marche, given to Lorde Dudley his players, whoe weare not suffered to play at the Towne hall, for theire Rewardes xs.

Item the xxxth of Augустe, pd for ij pottells of clarett wyne, and one pottell of white wyne and three quarters of a pounde of sugar given to the Ladye Arrbella att her then beinge at the Angell in Leicester vis. iijd.

[Charges in suite of toll £33. 18s. 9d.]

Other payments and charges abowte the vizited People As followeth.

Item for the charges for keepinge in of the vizited people in theire howsses and for theire keepers, and for provizion for them, and other theire charges as doth appeyre by a booke of the particuler charges. viiiii. iijs. viid. ob.

Reparacions.

Item pd to Thom Bursuall the second daye of September, for mendinge of the little Bridge in the Northe gate, called frogge mire brigge and for Lyme and stonne for the same, parcell of the fortie shillings given by Mr Gee of Hull.

Fees etc.

Item the xxith daye of December, paid for the hier of ij horsses to Lutterworth at the fetchinge of fyftie pownds, given to the towne of Leicester, by Mr Richarde Elkington of Shawell decessed, to bee yerelye for ever putt oute to fyve pore occupiars or tradesmen in Leicester after vli. the hundred, and for the charges of the said horsses one daye and one night and some other charges then vis. vid.

Item on Palme Sondaye even, pd to one for lookinge abrode in the markytt for cutt purces and suche lude people iiijd.

Item paid to the Towne Swyne hearde for Blowinge his horne

abowte the towne for the Tacke of Swyne, and for meate and drinke
that daye iiis.

Item payd to Thomas Davye, one of the Admynistrators of the
goods of Mistris Clarke of the Blue Boar decessed in full payment of
xxii. whiche Mr Thomas Chettell in his mayralty did receyve and not
answere. *xijli.* vis. *viiiid.*

[Total Receipts £481. 7. 2*3*
Total Expenditure 443. 19. 5*3*.]

LXXXVII. *Charter of James I April 17, 1609*

[Printed in Latin from the enrolment of the Patent Roll by Nichols, I. pt. ii,
pp. 420-424. The following translation is based upon the original charter, which
agrees very closely with the text printed by Nichols.]

Charters Letters Patent, etc. 101.

James, by the grace of God, King of England, Scotland, France and
Ireland, Defender of the Faith, etc., to all to whom the present letters
shall come, greeting. Whereas our very dear sister the Lady Elizabeth,
late Queen of England, willed and granted, among other things, by
certain her letters patent made under her great seal of England, bearing
date at Westminster the first day of June, in the forty-first year of her
reign, to the Mayor, Bailiffs and Burgesses of the borough of Leicester,
and to their successors, that the Mayor and Aldermen of the same
borough, and their successors, for the time being, or the greater part
of them, should have full power and authority to constitute, ordain,
and make from time to time such reasonable laws, statutes and ordin-
ances whatsoever as should seem to them good, wholesome, useful,
honest and necessary, according to their sound discretion, for the better
preservation, government, disposition, letting and demise of lands,
tenements, possessions, revenues and hereditaments heretofore given,
granted, assigned or confirmed to the aforesaid Mayor, Bailiffs and
Burgesses, and to their successors, or to be given, granted or assigned
thereafter, as appears more fully among other things by the said letters
patent;

Know ye that we, graciously affecting the public good and emolu-
ment of the borough aforesaid, at the humble petition of the present
Mayor, Bailiffs and Burgesses of the borough aforesaid, of our especial
grace and of our certain knowledge and mere motion, will and by the
presents for us, our heirs and successors, do grant to the aforesaid
Mayor, Bailiffs and Burgesses of the borough of Leicester aforesaid,
and to their successors, and also do for us, our heirs and successors,

ordain for all times to come that the Mayor, Aldermen and Twenty-four of the seniors of the Forty-Eight burgesses of the borough aforesaid called "The Company of the Eight and Forty," and their successors, or the major part of the same Mayor, Aldermen and Twenty-four of the seniors of the Forty-eight Burgesses of the same borough called "The Company of Eight and Forty," shall have from time to time for ever full power and authority to form, constitute, ordain and make from time to time such reasonable laws, statutes and ordinances whatsoever as shall seem to them, or to the greater part of them, good, wholesome, useful, honest and necessary, according to their sound discretion, for the better preservation, disposition, government, letting and demising of lands, tenements, possessions, revenues and hereditaments heretofore given, granted, assigned or confirmed to the aforesaid Mayor, Bailiffs and Burgesses of the borough aforesaid, and to their successors, or as shall be given, granted or assigned hereafter, the aforesaid letters patent or any other letters patent, or any use, prescription or any other thing, cause or matter whatsoever to the contrary hereof in anywise notwithstanding.

And moreover we will and for us, our heirs and successors, do establish, ordain and grant by the presents, of our especial grace, and of our certain knowledge and mere motion, to the aforesaid Mayor, Bailiffs and Burgesses, and to their successors, that every act, ordinance or constitution to be made or agreed upon hereafter by the aforesaid Mayor, Aldermen and Twenty-four of the seniors of the Forty-eight Burgesses of the borough aforesaid called "The Company of the Eight and Forty," or the greater part of them, as is aforesaid, for and concerning the making of any writings, instruments, or deeds containing any grant, demise, letting, conveyance, assurance, or disposition of any lands, tenements or hereditaments, parcels of the possessions of the same borough, or for or concerning the disposition of the rents, revenues, and annuities whatsoever pertaining or belonging to the same Mayor, Bailiffs and Burgesses, to which writings, deeds or instruments of grants, demises, lettings, conveyances, covenants, assurances or dispositions it shall be necessary by the laws of this our realm of England that the common seal of the said borough shall be appended or affixed, that then and as many times and in all such cases all and singular such acts, grants, demises, lettings, conveyances and assurances shall, unless they be by the assent and consent and in the presence of the aforesaid Mayor, Aldermen and Twenty-four of the seniors of the Forty-eight Burgesses called "The Company of the Eight and Forty," of the borough aforesaid for the time being, or of the greater part of

them, as is aforesaid, be void and of none effect to charge or bind the said Mayor, Bailiffs and Burgesses of the same borough, or their successors; and that the common seal of the aforesaid borough shall not be appended or affixed to the said acts, grants, demises, lettings, conveyances, assurances, dispositions, writings, instruments and deeds, or to any one or more of them, except by the assent and consent of and in the presence of the aforesaid Mayor, Aldermen, and Twenty-four of the seniors of the aforesaid Forty-eight Burgesses of the borough aforesaid for the time being, or of the greater part of them, as is abovesaid.

And moreover we will and do by the presents for us, our heirs and successors, firmly enjoin and order the aforesaid Mayor, Bailiffs and Burgesses of the borough aforesaid, and their successors, that they and each of them shall from time to time for ever well, firmly and inviolably observe and fulfil this our last ordinance and grant in all things, according to the true intention of the same; and that all persons offending against the form and effect of the same ordinances and grants shall incur and undergo such pains, penalties, forfeitures and imprisonments as can be inflicted and imposed by any laws and statutes of this our realm of England against the contemners and neglectors of our royal order in this behalf.

And moreover we will and by the presents for us, our heirs and successors, do grant to the aforesaid Mayor, Bailiffs and Burgesses of the borough aforesaid, and to their successors, that they and their successors henceforth for ever shall and may have and hold in the Guildhall of the same borough, or in any other convenient place within the borough aforesaid, a court of record on Monday in each week, or more often at their pleasure, before the Mayor, Recorder and Aldermen of the borough aforesaid for the time being, or before any three of them, of whom we will that the Mayor of the borough aforesaid for the time being shall be one; and that they may hold in that court by plaints to be raised in the same court all and all manner of pleas, plaints and actions of trespass whatsoever made or to be made by force and arms, or otherwise, in contempt of us, our heirs and successors, and of all and all manner of pleas upon the case, debts, accounts, covenants, detentions of charters, writings, muniments and chattels, takings and detentions of beasts and cattle and of other contracts arising or emerging from any causes or things whatsoever within the borough aforesaid, the limits and precincts of the same, in such, the like and similar and in as ample manner and form as was wont and used in the same borough heretofore; and that as often as any person or any persons whatsoever possessing or holding any lands, tenements, rents or here-

ditaments within the borough aforesaid, the limits and precincts of the same, will implead or be impleaded concerning the same lands, tenements, rents and hereditaments, he or they thus wishing to plead or be impleaded shall sue out our writ of right patent issuing from our court of the Chancery of England, to be directed to the Mayor, Recorder and Aldermen of the borough aforesaid; upon which writ he or they thus wishing to plead or to be impleaded, as is aforesaid, shall make his or their protestation in the court aforesaid before the Mayor, Recorder and Aldermen of the borough aforesaid, or before any three of them, of whom we will that the Mayor of the borough aforesaid for the time being shall be one, to sue his plaint upon the writ aforesaid, made in the nature of a writ of assize of novel disseisin, mort d'ancestor, attainer, or in the nature of any other action or writ whatsoever at the common law, as the matter and case requires; and that such pleas, plaints and actions, both real, personal and mixed, shall be there heard and determined before the Mayor, Recorder and Aldermen of the borough aforesaid, or before any three of them, of whom we will that the Mayor of the borough aforesaid for the time being shall be one in the aforesaid court to be held in the Guildhall of the borough aforesaid, or in any other convenient place within the borough aforesaid, by such and the like processes and manners, according to the law and custom of our realm of England, as shall be consonant with our law, and in as ample manner and form as is used or accustomed or may or ought to be done in any other court of record in any other borough or incorporated town within this realm of England, the aforesaid letters patent of the said late queen Elizabeth here previously recited, or any other letters patent, or any other use, custom, prescription, or any other thing, cause, or matter to the contrary hereof made in anywise notwithstanding; saving always to us, our heirs and successors, for ever, as in the right of our Duchy of Lancaster, all and singular perquisites, profits, issues, fines, amercements, pains and forfeitures arising, accruing or proceeding from time to time yearly for ever, after the end of the demise previously made thereof among other things to one Thomas Edmonds, gentleman, in the aforesaid court of record or in the Portmoot (*in portimoto*) of the court of the borough aforesaid, and in other our courts, as of the right of our Duchy of Lancaster, held or to be held within the borough aforesaid, to be paid yearly to us, our heirs and successors, as of the right of our Duchy of Lancaster; of which perquisites, profits, issues, fines, amercements, pains and forfeitures aforesaid the Mayor, Bailiffs and Burgesses, and their successors, shall yearly render a just and faithful account before the auditor of the

premises for the time being, and shall well and faithfully pay and satisfy for everything therein that pertains to us, our heirs and successors, in right of our aforesaid Duchy of Lancaster, at the hands of the particular receiver of us, our heirs and successors, of our said Duchy of Lancaster for the time being, all and singular wages, fees and allowances allowed therefrom by us or our progenitors heretofore or of right accustomed always reserved to the aforesaid Mayor, Bailiffs and Burgesses, and to their successors, and deducted in their custody thence to be yearly allowed there by the auditor of us, our heirs and successors, for ever upon sight of the presents.

And moreover, whereas we, by our letters patent under the seal of our Duchy of Lancaster, bearing date at our palace of Westminster the sixth day of June, in the first year of our reign of England, France and Ireland and of Scotland the thirty-sixth, by the advice and consent of our council of our Duchy of Lancaster, gave and granted to our well-beloved subject John Wilne alias Willis the office of bailiff of our lordship or manor of Leicester and of our town of Leicester, in our county of Leicester, and have made, ordained and constituted the said John Wilne alias Willis bailiff of our lordship or manor aforesaid and of the town aforesaid by the same our letters patent, to have, occupy, exercise and enjoy the office aforesaid to the aforesaid John Wilne alias Willis, by himself or by his sufficient deputy or deputies, during our pleasure, with the wages and fee of four pounds per annum, together with all other fees, wages, commodities and advantages due to the said office from of old and accustomed, to be received yearly from the issues, profits and revenues issuing or accruing from our said lordship or manor and from the said town of Leicester, as well by his own hands as by the hands of the particular receiver there for the time being, at the usual feasts by equal portions, in as ample manner and form as the aforesaid John Wilne alias Willis, or any other officers or officers aforesaid having or exercising lawfully had or received at any time in and for the exercise aforesaid, as more fully appears by the letters patent aforesaid: which our pleasure we determine by the presents and will to be determined for ever.

And whereas we also, by our letters patent under the seal of our Duchy of Lancaster, bearing date at our palace of Westminster the eleventh day of July, in the first year of our reign of England, France and Ireland and of Scotland the thirty-sixth, by the advice and consent of the council of our Duchy of Lancaster, gave and granted to our well-beloved subject Christopher Tamworth, esquire, the office of Steward of our borough of Leicester, in our county of Leicester, other-

wise called the office of the clerk called "The Towne Clarke" of the same our town, and ordained, made and constituted the same Christopher Tamworth our Steward of our town of Leicester aforesaid and Clerk of the same town by the same our letters patent; to have hold, enjoy, occupy and exercise the aforesaid office to the aforesaid Christopher Tamworth, by himself or by his sufficient deputy or deputies, during our pleasure, together with all and singular wages, fees, profits, commodities, advantages and emoluments pertaining or belonging to the said office, to have and receive yearly the same fees and wages to the same Christopher Tamworth during our pleasure of the issues, profits and revenues of our Honour of Leicester, as appears more fully by the same our letters patent: which pleasure we determine by the presents and will to be determined for ever.

Know ye that we, of our more ample special grace, and of our certain knowledge and mere motion, will and do by the presents, for us, our heirs and successors, grant to the aforesaid Mayor, Bailiffs and Burgesses of the borough aforesaid, and to their successors, and we also ordain that the Mayor and Aldermen of the borough aforesaid, and their successors for the time being, or the greater part of them, of whom we will that the Mayor for the time being shall be one, shall have from time to time hereafter for ever power and authority to nominate, elect, appoint, admit and swear in the full court of the borough aforesaid a sufficient and fit person to be Steward or Clerk of the borough aforesaid, and so many and such sufficient and fit persons to be Bailiff and Bailiffs of our town of Leicester aforesaid and Keeper and Keepers of our gaol for borough aforesaid; and also so many and such attorneyes, sub-bailiffs and other inferior officers and ministers of the court aforesaid, and the Clerk of our Peace within the borough aforesaid, to be attendent both in the court aforesaid and elsewhere within the borough aforesaid, the limits and precincts aforesaid, as often as their presence, offices and services shall be required, as shall seem necessary to the Mayor and Aldermen of the borough aforesaid for the time being, or the greater part of them, of whom we will that the Mayor of the borough aforesaid for the time being shall be one, to be chosen, nominated, appointed and sworn, and as many as were heretofore used and accustomed in the same borough or in the court aforesaid; and that the aforesaid Steward or Clerk of the borough aforesaid, the bailiff and bailiffs, keeper of the gaol, attorneyes, sub-bailiffs, Clerk of the Peace, and all the other aforesaid officers and ministers thus, as is aforesaid, to be elected, nominated and sworn, executing and discharging any office or ministry in or by reason of the court aforesaid,

or by reason of any of the premises, about the administration or execution of justice within the borough aforesaid, the liberties and precincts of the same, shall have and receive, and each of them shall have and receive, henceforth for ever such and such manner of reasonable and lawful wages, fees and rewards of and for the execution of the ministry or office aforesaid as they had and received or ought to have received lawfully from of old: provided always that the aforesaid Mayor, Bailiffs and Burgesses of the borough aforesaid, and their successors for the time being, or their deputies, shall render a just and faithful account of the issues, fines, amercements, pains, forfeitures, profits and revenues arising, emerging or accruing of our town or borough of Leicester aforesaid yearly to us, our heirs and successors, before the auditor of the premises for the time being, and shall well and faithfully answer and satisfy yearly for everything thereof that may and ought to pertain to us, our heirs and successors, by the hands of the particular receiver of us, our heirs or successors, of the same premises for the time being, as was wont to be done and as is just; all and singular wages, fees, profits, advantages and allowances lawfully allowed heretofore yearly by us or any of our progenitors for the exercise of the said office of bailiff of the lordship and town of Leicester aforesaid, always reserved in their custody and deducted to the aforesaid Mayor, Bailiffs and Burgesses, and to their successors, to be allowed thence by the auditor of us, our heirs and successors, for the time being yearly upon sight of the presents.

And moreover, for the preservation and maintainance of certain ancient customs, privileges, jurisdictions and preeminences of our Duchy of Lancaster within our borough of Leicester, to be performed to our Honour of Leicester, parcel of our ancient Duchy of Lancaster, in our county of Leicester, we grant and do by the presents for us, our heirs and successors, ordain that the Mayor of our borough of Leicester shall from time to time for ever yearly, on the Monday following the feast of St Martin in Winter, commonly called in English "the Monday after Martilmas day," for the time being come into the hall of our castle of Leicester, in our county of Leicester, near our said borough of Leicester, and then and there, between the ninth and the eleventh hours before noon of each of these Mondays immediately after each feast of St Martin in Winter, shall take bodily oath upon the gospels before our Steward of our Honour of Leicester aforesaid to perform and observe well and faithfully all and singular old customs, jurisdictions, privileges and preeminences of our Duchy of Lancaster within our borough of Leicester aforesaid, for and during the time of his mayoralty, according to his best notice and knowledge.

And whereas the said Lady Elizabeth, late Queen of England, by the same her letters patents previously mentioned, for the greater relief and sustentation of poor men and women inhabiting and dwelling within the same borough of Leicester, willed and granted to the aforesaid Mayor, Bailiffs and Burgesses of the aforesaid borough of Leicester, and to their successors, that the same Mayor, Bailiffs and Burgesses, and their successors, should and might have and hold for ever within the borough aforesaid a market of wool in the said borough of Leicester, called in English "a wooll markett," for the buying and selling of wool, flax and forage (*foraginis*), together with all profits, commodities, emoluments and free customs incident, arising, pertaining or belonging to such market. And whereas in the same letters patent no certain time or day for keeping the wool market aforesaid was appointed, limited or specified, know ye that we, as well for the full supplying of that defect in the market aforesaid in this behalf as for the better relief and sustentation of the poor inhabitants of the same borough, and of the limits and precincts of the same, do, of our special grace, and of our certain knowledge and mere motion, will and grant to the same Mayor, Bailiffs and Burgesses, and to their successors, by the presents that they the same Mayor, Bailiffs, and their successors shall and may have and hold freely, well and quietly for ever in the said borough of Leicester the aforesaid wool market, called in English "the wooll markett," for the buying and selling of wool, flax and forage, on every Wednesday and Saturday in each week throughout the year for all times to come, at the pleasure of the same Mayor, Bailiffs and Burgesses, and of their successors, for ever.

And moreover, of our more abundant special grace, and of our certain knowledge and mere motion, we do ordain and for us, our heirs and successors, do give and grant to the aforesaid Mayor, Bailiffs and Burgesses of the borough of Leicester aforesaid, and to their successors, full power, authority and jurisdiction that the same Mayor and Aldermen, justices of the Peace of the borough aforesaid, and the greater part of them, of whom we will that the Mayor for the time being shall be one, shall and may have and exercise within the borough aforesaid and the liberties and precincts of the same for ever the punishment and correction of all and singular prostitutes, whores, bawds and common quarrelers, called in English "scoldes," dwelling, inhabiting or offending there, as well by the verdict and presentment of twelve upright and lawful men of the borough aforesaid for the time being as by other ways, manners and means that shall seem most expedient to them, as has been wont and used in the same borough heretofore.

And moreover, of our more ample special grace, and of our certain knowledge and mere motion, we do grant for us, our heirs and successors, and do confirm by the presents to the aforesaid Mayor, Bailiffs and Burgesses of the borough of Leicester aforesaid, and to their successors, all and all manner the same, such and the like liberties and franchises, immunities, exemptions, acquittances, customs, jurisdictions, lands, tenements and hereditaments as the Mayor, Bailiffs and Burgesses of the borough of Leicester aforesaid, or as the Mayor and Burgesses of the borough or town of Leicester aforesaid, or any one or more of them, lawfully had, held, used or enjoyed, or could or ought to have had, held, used or enjoyed, by any name or names whatsoever or by any incorporation whatsoever, or by pretext of any incorporation, at any time heretofore, both within the borough of Leicester aforesaid, the limits or precincts of the same, as well as elsewhere within our whole realm of England, to them and to their successors for ever, by estate of inheritance, by reason or pretext of any charters or letters patent of any of our progenitors or ancestors in anywise heretofore made, confirmed or granted, or by any other lawful manner, right, title, custom or prescription had, used or confirmed heretofore, any non-user, abuse or misuse concerning the premises at any time heretofore committed, done, omitted or perpetrated in any way notwithstanding: rendering however and paying thence to us, our heirs and successors, such, the same and the like yearly rents and sums of money as and in the same manner as they rendered and were wont or of right ought to render and pay for the same heretofore.

Wherefore we will and by the presents for us, our heirs and successors, do firmly order and enjoin that the aforesaid Mayor, Bailiffs and Burgesses of the borough aforesaid, and their successors, shall have, hold, use and enjoy, and may and can have, use and enjoy for ever all the liberties, authorities, jurisdictions, franchises and acquittances aforesaid, according to the tenor and effect of these our letters patent, and in as ample manner and form as they used and enjoyed them, or should or might have enjoyed, them heretofore by reason of any gift, charter or grant of any of our progenitors or ancestors, or of any use, custom or prescription, without question (*occasione*), or hindrance from us, our heirs and successors, justices, sheriffs, or other bailiffs or ministers of us, our heirs and successors, whomsoever; we not willing that the same Mayor, Bailiffs and Burgesses of the borough aforesaid, or any one or more of them, shall be questioned (*occasionentur*), molested, vexed or aggrieved or in anywise perturbed in this behalf by us, or by our heirs or successors, justices, sheriffs, or other bailiffs or ministers

of us, our heirs or successors, whomsoever; we willing and firmly ordering and commanding by the presents as well the treasurer, chancellor and barons of our exchequer at Westminster, as other justices and officers of us, our heirs and successors, and our attorney and solicitor general for the time being, as our chancellor and attorney of our Duchy of Lancaster, and our auditors, receivers and supervisors general, for the time being, and all our other officers and ministers of our same Duchy of Lancaster, and each of them, and all our other officers and ministers whomsoever, from time to time for ever, that neither they nor any one or more of them, shall sue or continue, or make or cause to be sued or continued any writ or summons of *Quo Warranto* or any other our writ, writs or processes whatsoever against the Mayor, Bailiffs and Burgesses of the borough aforesaid and the burgesses of the borough aforesaid, or against any one or more of them, for any causes, things, matters, offences, claims, or usurpations, or any of them, due, claimed, attempted, used, had or usurped by them or any of them, before the day of the making of the presents; we willing also that the same Mayor, Bailiffs and Burgesses of the borough aforesaid, or any one or more of them, shall not be molested or impeded or be in any way compelled to answer for these things or any of them by any one or more of our justices, officers or ministers aforesaid in or for a debt, use, claim, nonuser or abuse of any of the liberties, franchises or jurisdictions of the borough aforesaid, the suburbs or precincts of the same, before the day of the making of these our letters patent.

We will also and by the presents for us, our heirs and successors, do grant to the aforesaid Mayor, Bailiffs and Burgesses of the borough of Leicester aforesaid, and to their successors, that they, the aforesaid Mayor, Bailiffs and Burgesses of the borough aforesaid, and their successors, shall have these our letters patent as well under our great seal of England as under the seal of our Duchy of Lancaster made and sealed in due manner without rendering, paying or making a fine or fee, great or small, therefor to us in our hanaper or elsewhere for our use in anywise. Notwithstanding in any way that express mention of the true yearly value or the certitude of the premises, or of any one of them, or of any other gifts or grants made by us or by any of our ancestors or progenitors to the aforesaid Mayor, Bailiffs and Burgesses of the borough of Leicester aforesaid before these times has not been made in the presents, or any statute, act, ordinance, provision, proclamation or restriction to the contrary hereof heretofore issued, ordained or provided, or any other thing, cause or matter whatsoever.

In witness whereof we have caused these our letters patent to be made as well under our great seal of England as under the seal of our Duchy of Lancaster. Witness myself at Westminster, the seventeenth day of April in the seventh year of our reign of England, France and Ireland, and of Scotland the forty-second.

By writ of Privy Seal.

Lukyn.

For a fine of forty shillings paid into the hanaper.

Examined by me Thomas Marten.

The fine for the confirmation of the preceding liberties is taxed at 40*s.*

T. Ellesmere, Chancellor.

Thomas Parry, Chancellor of the Duchy
of Lancaster.

Endorsed: Enrolled in the office of Thomas Fanshawe, esquire, Auditor of the Duchy of Lancaster, on the twenty-sixth day of October, in the seventh year of King James.

Th: Fanshawe, Auditor.

[Great Seal and fragment of Seal of the Duchy of Lancaster, the latter in red wax.]

LXXXVIII. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers IV, No. 348. [May 6, 1609.] Commissioners appoynted and Assigned to sett, Lett by lease not above xxi yeres and sell in fee symple or fee farme any the Towne Lands which they have in fee symple or in fee farme, viz.

Of the XLVIII^{ti}.

Robert Johnson	camerarii	William Hunte
John Blount		William Ludlam
Bartholl Middleton	Nicholas Gyllott	

Of the XXIV^{ti}.

M^r Maior, M^r Heyricke, M^r Ellis, M^r Gyllott.

The shambles and drapery not to [be sold] in ffee farme Butt [let on] lease.

This Authoritye to continue unto Septembre nexte.

LXXXIX. *Papers relating to the Stewardship.*

Hall Papers IV, No. 369. [June 13, 1609.] (Letter to Lord Huntington.) Right Honorable Maie it please your good Lordshipe we have received the paper Booke which shoulde passe betweene your Honour and the Towne of Leicester, for the first nominacion of the

Stewarde, and the seconde nominacion of the Bayliffe of the same towne to your honour and the heires Males of your bodie. And uppon perusinge thereof wee finde the same drawn accordinge to certen Articles indented made between Mr John Freeman and John Blount one of our Chamberlins of the one parte and Thom: Harvey gent: in the behalfe of your honour of the other parte which Articles are made without our knowledge or Consents and Contrarie to an order and Agreement by us and others made att oure Comon hall holden uppon Mondaike the xijth daie of Januarie 1607. Before Mr Chapman then Maior and others of our Twoe Companies or the greater parte of them. Wee therefore humblie intreate your good Lordshipp to take knowledge of the said hall [a copy] whereof wee have herein closed sent your honour desireinge your Lordshippe that the said paper Booke [may be] drawne accordinge to the saide order wee purpose (god soe willinge) to performe the same unto your Lordship accordinglye And so with remembrance of our dutyes etc

Your honours humble to command

James Andrewe Maior	James Ellyce
William Morton	Edward Newcome
Robert Heyrick	

Hall Papers IV, No. 385. [Aug. 11, 1609.] (Letter from Lord Huntingdon.) I have longe expected to have heard from you that the bookes accordinge to your owne Recorde and agreement might have bene sealed But nowe your owne ends are served your performances are answerable unto men of your condition And though upon your Reconciliacion and myne I buryed all your unrespective courses towards mee Yett seeinge you runne your former I shall holde you in my thoughtes and valew you at noe higher a rate then I had cause to doe heretofore The Worlde may see that out of feare not out of Love you respected mee for my parte I had rather have bene lynked unto you by your affections: yt is nowe made evydent unto me that though you carryed honye in your mouthes yet there was but Gall in your hartes And seeing it is soe I shall trye by course of Lawe howe to be righted of thoose indignities it seemeth you would putt upon me lett mee bee carryed on noe further with delayes, but receive your speedie answere (which is all I covett) whether you will performe yt which Mr Sergeant Nicholles under his hand and others under ther bondes have Covenanted for you And soe yf you doe desire ytt I reste

Your loving freind
Huntingdon.

Hall Papers IV, No. 422. [Dec. 12, 1609.] (Letter from Lord Huntingdon.) Mr Mayor I have sent you by this bearer George Waetanes the bookes to be amended, for the next second turne, for the nomynatinge and appointinge of the office to be sett in for the [*illegible*] and so alternis vicibus to contynue betwixt us, and the heyres males of my body and your successors: prayinge you, that with spedee they maie be altered. And a bond of 2000*l* likewise from your Corporacion accordinge to our former agrement. I have thereupon appointed him to goe with them to Mr Francis Harvie to peruse them that they maie forthwith be engrossed and dispatched otherwise you will cause me to take such course to right my self as I am most unwillinge to doe, and wilbe little pleasinge to some of them Let me have your speedie answere herein.

Hall Papers IV, Nos. 154-155. [No date.] Whereas the Kings moste excellent Mat^e by his warrante under his Mat^es pryst Seale for the passing of his Letters patents under the greate Seale of England unto the Maior Bailiffs and Burgesses of the Burrough of Leicester within the honor of Leicester parcell of his Mat^es Dutchie of Lancaster hath amongst other things therein conteyned signified his pleasure for the revokinge of A former patent duringe pleasure made to Christopher Tamworth of the Stewardshipp of the portmote Courte of the same Burrough And for the grantinge to them the said Maior Bailiffs and Burgesses of the said Burrough and theire successors a Courte of Recorde for pleas to be holden every mundaie in the weeke or att their pleasure before the Maior Recorder and Aldermen or anie three of them And that the Maior and Aldermen of the same Borrough and their successors for the tyme beinge or the greater part of them whereof the Maior for the time beinge to be one shoulde have power and auctoritie from tyme to tyme for ever To name choose appoint admitt and Sweare one suffycyent and fitt person to be steward of the Burrough and Courte aforesaid (Nowe the condicion of this obligacion ys suche That yf the said Maior Bayliffs and Burgesses of the said Burrough of Leicester doe and shall within three monethes next after the daie whereon the said Letters patents shall beare teste by theire suffycient deede Indented under theire Common Seale grant for them and theire successors that the above named right honorable Henry Earle of Huntingdon and his heirs shall for ever from the teste of the said Letters patents have the nominacion [of Steward] for every other turne of suche person as after the teste of the said Letters patents shalbe the Steward of the said Burrough and Courte for his liefe and

to be Sworne for the due Execucion of the same office by the said Maior Bayliffs and Burgesses and their Successors. And the turne of the said Earle to be the firste after the teste of the said letters patents And the turne of the said Maior Bayliffs and Burgesses to be the next and second. And then the turne of the said Earle and of his heires to be the third. And then the said Maior Bayliffs and Burgesses to be the fourth. And soe by turns for ever The said Earle and his heires to have one turne and the said Maior Bayliffs and Burgesses and their Successors to have another and soe one after another for ever Then this present obligacion to be voyde and of none effect otherwise the same to remayne and bee in full force and Vertue.

XC. Meeting of the Mayor and his Brethren

Hall Papers IV, No. 389. [October 2, 1609.] A metinge of M^r Maior and certen of his Bretherne viz: M^r Thomas Parker Maior, M^r William Norice, M^r William Morton, M^r James Ellice, M^r Edward Newcome, M^r Robert Atton and M^r William Ive. And it was ordered and Agreed that the xxiiij shalbe taxed at iijs. a peece the xlviij att xvij pence A peece and the Comyners accordinge to theire Abillities Sessed for one monethes paye, from this present daie for and towards the Relief of the visited people in Leicester And appoynted M^r Morton Treasurer for the Receipt of the monye, And payment thereof as the visited people and watchmen shall have neede thereof

the xxiiij sessement in toto	iiiil. xijs.
the xlviij in toto	iiijl. xijs.
£7. 4.	
M ^r Morton's warde	xxis. 4d.
M ^r Atton's warde	xiijs. viiid.
M ^r Heyrick's warde	xvijs. 10d.
M ^r Mabbs warde	xjs.
M ^r ffreaks warde	xiijs.
M ^r Ellice warde	xs.
M ^r Norice warde	xiijs.
M ^r Gillotts warde	xxijs. ijd.
M ^r Hunters warde	xij. 8d.

£7. 9. 10.

Summa totalis £14. 13. 10.

XCI. Meeting of the Mayor and his Brethren

Hall Papers IV, No. 491. [Oct. 6, 1609.] A meetinge of Mr Maior and his [Brethren concerning the aid] due unto his Majestie in everye place and [illegible] for makinge the noble prince Henrie his eldest sonn Knight [as the] statutes of this Realm requireth &c By vertue of a [illegible] of Sir John Graye Knight Sir William Skipwith Sir Thomas Cave [illegible] [illegible] Dixie Knighte and others &c Apud Guildhall Burgi Leic^r &c.

Itt is Agreed that euerye Alderman within this Borough of Leicester with the Constable of everye severall warde shall take vewe of all the ffree holds in the said wardz and present the names of everye ffree holder that dwelleth in his owne, and everye ffree holder ells, and what everye Tennaunt payeth yeerelie to the ffree holder for his howsse or ground Close or garden and whether the Tennaunts repayre theire howsses att theire charge yea or noe.

XCII. Common Hall

Hall Papers IV, No. 424. [Dec. 18, 1609.] *Imprimis* it is ordered and agreed that where the Earle of Huntingdon doth demaunde one £1000 bonde of the Corporacion for enjoyinge the turnes of thoffice of Stewardeshippe and Baylliweke of the Burgh The same is whollie referred to Mr Recorder (and Mr Francis Harvey the Earle's counsell) and whatt Bonde shalbe thought fitt (by Mr Recorder) to be yealded unto, shalbe performed by the Corporacion.

Itt is allso ordered and agreed to give and paie this yeere followinge out of Chamber of the Towne Tenn pounds to xxx^{ti} poore people in Leicester, to everye severall parson xx.s. a quarter for and towards his better releife: To everye parishe a some of monye according to the nomber of theire poore, And to suche poore as shalbe appoynted and named by the Maior and Aldermen of the saide Borough.'

*XCIII. Meeting of the Mayor, Aldermen and the eldest Twenty-four
of the Forty-eight.*

Hall Book III, p. 338. [Feb. 19, 1609/10.] Whereas the Right Honorable Henry Earle of Huntingdon hath offered the Mr or Wardenshipp of the hospitall in the Newark of Leicester To the Towne of Leicester payinge the same some to his Honor As his Lordship did geve and paye to William Fowkes late Mr of the said Hospitall. It is at this meetinge Agreed that the Towne of Leicester shall have and take the

said Mr and Wardenshipp and geve that somme of money to the said Earle as he payed to the said William Fowkes And to have the Pattents made in the name of the Maior of Leicester for the tyme beinge and so successively.

Common Hall, March 28, 1610.

It is agreed that the fee of xij*l.* vjs. vijd. Due to the Master of the hospitall in the Newarke of Leicester shall yearly come and be to the use of the Chamber of the Towne of Leicester. And as the poore in the house shall dye one other poore persone of the Towne shall be chosen to supply that roome whiche persone and personnes shalbe chosen by the Maior and Companie of the xxiiij*t*i or the greater part of them And the poore of everye parishe to be placed one parish after another and speciall regard to be had of the parishes where most poore are.

XCIV. Meeting of the Twenty-four

Hall Papers IV, No. 429. [1609.] A metinge of the xxiiij*t*i to make Assessment in the Towne for and towards relieve of the visited people in the Sowthe gate of Leicestre with the sicknes called the plague And agreed upon as followeth:

Imprimis it is agreed that the fformer choyse made in Mr James Andrewes yeere of mairaltie (that John Pare one of the Companie of the xlviij to be made A Maior's Brother) shall nowe stande and bee in force And the said John Pare to be fourthwith admitted and sworne to the Companie of the xxiiij &c.

Allsoe itt is agreed that theire shalbee fourthwith made Assessment towards the releife of the vizited people in Leicester for one monethes paiement begun the nynthe daie of June last past And the 24*t*i and 48*t*i and all the Comynors to bee assessed and taxed As they were in the Sessment made in November last for the releife of the visited people in the Sowthe gate in Leicester.

Save onlie Mr John Bonnett and hee to bee Assessed with the second companie of the xxiiij*t*i.

XCV. Common Hall

Hall Papers IV, No. 421. [? 1609.] Att this Comon hall or Assemblie it is ordered that the Alderman [and Constables] shall diligentlie looke that not any Straunger which ys likely by himselfe his wyfe where he shall dwell shall come to dwell within theire warde [*illegible*] moueth, make itt knowne to the Maior and Justices of the

Borough of Leicester that they maie take order, that noe parishe be charged uppon paine that everye Alderman shall forfitt xs. and everye Constable vs. for everye defalte to the use of the poore of the same parishe.

Itt is allsoe agreed that no ffreeman or other parson or parsons of this Borough not being ffree and fit to beare lotte and scotte as other ffreemen doe shall receyve anye Straunger to bee his or her Tenaunte which is likely to be in himselfe wyfe or children any charge to the parishe where he shall dwell before he hath acquaynted the Alderman of that warde therewith. And if theire bee cause then to give suerties that they shall not be Chargeable to the parishe uppon paine that everye one offending against this order shall forseyte vli. to the use of the poore of the same parishe.

Itt is ffurther agreed that the Alderman (or his deputie uppon warninge given by the Alderman) and the Constable of everye warde shall diligentlie once or twice everye week looke to the disorderlye Tiplinge and Drinkinge in Tavernes Innes or Alehowsses within theire owne warde by privye watch or otherwise and punnishe those things that are in theire power, accordinge as they may by lawe, and for other mylde meanes informe the Maior and Justices that the partyes offendinge maye receyve punnyshment accordinge to the Statutes in that case provided uppon paine that everye Alderman or his deputie (*erased*) shall forseyt for euerye defaulte vjs. viijd. And euerye Constable iijs. iiijd. to the use of the poore of the same parishe where the Alderman his Deputy or the Constable dwelleth.

XCVI. *The Mayor's Oath*

Hall Papers IV, No. 403. [No date.] The oath of the Maior of Leicester to bee yeerelie taken att the Castle of Leicester viz:

- I Thomas Parker nowe Maior of the Borough of Leicester will well and faithfullie observe and perfourme All and singuler thee Aunciente Customes Jurisdictions priviledges and prehemynances of his Majestys Duchie of Lancaster within his heighnes saide Borough of Leicester duringe the tyme of my nowe Mairalty to my best knowledge and disrecreation, So helpe me God.

Hall Papers IV, No. 387. [1609.] A memorandum of the Mannor howe the Maior of Leicester went to the Castle of Leicester to take his oathe the Mondaie after Martlemas Daie Accordinge to theire Charter in that behalfe As followeth viz:

First, the Maior and the twoe Companyes, meeete that morninge

before nyne of the Clocke, att their towne hall And from thence goe towards the Castle to take the said oath Attended with their Towne Clarke, Macebearer and 4 Seriants at Mace in manner following vidz: The Towne Clarke bearinge their Charter with the Macebearer, nexte before the Maior, and before them, the saide 4 Seriants with their lesser Maces, All Carryinge upp their Mace untill they Come to the Castle gate, where the saide 4 Seriants holde downe their Maces, and Come behinde bothe the Companies. And the saide Towne Clarke and Macebearer proceede goeinge before the Maior as aforesaide into the Castle to the place where the Stewarde of the honor of Leicester or his Deputy shalbe to give the saide oath, unto the Maior accordinge to the said Charter. And after the oath soe taken they all retorne in like manner. And this bearinge of the Mace before the Maior into the Castle is not done out of any intent to clayme or Challenge anye Jurisdiccion or libertie within the Castle or anye of the liberties thereof Butt onlye to declare and manyfest that he Cometh to take that oath, as the Maior of the Borough of Leicester.

XCVII. *Questions to the Recorder*

Hall Papers IV, No. 406. [No date.] Whether Mr Maior shall not proceede in theexecution of Justice to thinhabitants of the Byshoppes Fee for anye misdemeanors Comitted there, either by anie of our Townsmen: or by anye of the saide fee men yea or noe And to sesse them towards the releife of the vizited people and other paiemnts (?).

There is noe doubt but the Maior maye use his Jurisdiction within the houses and persons inhabiting or offending in any of the houses of the Bishoppes Fee for the houses are without question within the Suburbs of the borough as other houses are there which adioyne unto them and ytt is warrantable also by the Charter of 41 Elz.

Hall Papers IV, No. 430. [No date.] Thom. Boobye A verie poore men Lyinge in our towne gaole uppon Severall executions and in want whoe shall releife him duringe his lyinge theire (?).

He must relieve himselfe of his owne yf he have ytt if not noe man els ys bound by lawe to gyve him relief.

XCVIII. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1608-9.*

Receipts, Freemen etc.

Item received of Rowlande Pewsey gent and Common Bearbruer of this Borough of Leicester for his freedom vli. And vli. more hee giveth to the Chamber of the Towne upon his owne voluntarye and good will to be well delt withall by the Towne hereafter in other matters.

Item received of John Bugge Shoomaker one of the Companye of the xlviiti for his fyne for redempcion of the Chamberlinship of this Borough ls.

Item received of our Towne Mercers towards the charge in pavinge against theire shoppes in the Saturdaye markitt asfolloweth vicz of Richardre Annables iijs., of William Wynbye iijs. ijd., of Thomas Wynbye iijs. iiijd., of Thomas Stanley iis. vid., of Edward Benskin iijs. iid., of Richardre Becke iijs., of Roger Palmer iijs., of William Weldon iijs., of Thomas Gillott iijs. viid., Soe in the wholl xxvis. ix.d.

Other receipts for fynges of and for certen Mercers shoppes and other shoppes newelye erected builte and sett upp in the Saturdaye markitt in Leicester at the coste and charge of the Maior Baylliffe and Burgesses of the Broughe of Leicester, And aliso fynges for leases of Shoomakers shoppes sheddys or stalls theire Asfollowethe vicz for xvij yeeres from Michaellmas Anno Domini 1609 The lease of which said shoppes was bought by the towne of John Okes gent.

[14 shops etc. total £50. 10.

Shoomakers, Tanners, Chandlers, £21. 8d.

Rents in Markitt, £23. 11. 0.]

Payments.

Item paide to the particuler Receyver of the Honor of Leicester parcell of his Highnes Duchie of Lancaster for the wholl yeares rent of all the shoppes Sheddys and Stalls in the Saturdaie markitt whiche wee holde by Indenture of Lease made and grannted by our Soveraigne lorde the Kinge to John Okes gent. whose interest the Towne of Leicester hath And due att the said feast of Sainte Michaell thark-anngell (1609) the some of iiiijli.

Gifts of Wine Rewards, etc.

Item the xiith of Aprill paid for wyne and suger given to the Justices of the Countie Att theire firste sittinge att the Angell in Leicester aboute Aide to make the noble prince Henrye the Kings Maiesties eldest sonn Knight. vijs. ix.d.

Item given to poore Scholler by Mr Maiors appoynment xijd.

Item given to a poore preacher of Cambridge that preached in St Martins. ijs. vid.

Item given to a messenger that brought Letters from one Mr Dupper the Kings Beare Brewer, to see what the Towne of Leicester woulde give towards the preferinge of a Bill to the parliament to suppresse strong Ale brewers ijs.

*Item paide to M^r Robert Orpwood Goldesmyth for a silver gilte Cupp with a Cover standinge, given to Sir Thomas Parrey Knight Chancellor of his highnes Duchie of Lancaster for his honors favour towards the Towne of Leicester in obtayninge theire Charter xij*li.* xvs. ix*d.**

[Payments to great persons. Oct. 15 Prince of Wertenbeche. M^r Doctor Abbott. Sep. 7 Earl of Huntingdon.

Payments to Players. Lord Hasting's Muzicions 2*/-*. Queen's Players 40*/-*. Prince's Players of the White Chappelle, London 20*/-*. Children of the Revells 20*/-*.]

Reparacions.

Other payments and charges laide out in and aboute the Newe building of Shopps Sheddys and stalls in the Saturdaye markitt, And for pavinge all needfull places in the said Saturday Markitt Aswell in the Womens markitt, between and about the newe mercers shoppes As also over against Gaynssborowe chamber and M^r Woodford and Thomas Ward Laborer theire backgates.

[A long account follows: total £101. 2. 3.]

Charges att Generall Muster taken at Leicester uppon Fridaye the xxij daye of October Anno Domini Jacobi nunc Anglie etc. Sexto et Scotie xlij 1608. Beefore Sir Thomas Cave Knight, Sir William Turpin and M^r Henry Cave Deputye Leifetennants to the Right honorable Henry Earle of Huntingdon by Speciall commandmente from the Kings Maiestie for a generall veiwe to bee taken of all his Maiestie's forces trayned and untrayned within the Borough of Leicester.

[Account follows: total £4.]

Charges in Suites of Lawe aboute the Tolle.

[Contribution to charges demanded from the county, p. 9; warrants sent out for this, p. 10. Total £65. 9. 10.]

Item the xxijth daie of december pd for the charges and horrse hier of Thomas Stapleford to divers Justices of the County of Leicester for their hands to divers warrants directed to the said Constables on collectinge upp of A Somme of money in the said countye—for charge aboute the Tolle. xvs.

Charges in the journey about our Charter in Hillarye term Anno Sexto Jacobi Regis Anglie etc. et Scotie quadragesimo secundo.

[Account follows: total £96. 9. 9.]

The Second Charge in goinge about to obtayne our Charter etc.

[Account follows: total £109. 5. 8.]

Fees wages and other payments.

Item the xith of Aprill paide for the charge and horsshier of Roger Hawfeilde to Northampton to M^r Recorder for his openyon against

the Commyng of the Justices of the County of Leicester to sitt at Leicester about aide to make the noble prince Henrye the Kings Maiesties eldest sonne Knighte. vis.

Item the vijth of June pd for the charge of Roger Hawfeilde to Mr Recorder for his Letter to the said Commissioners for aide when they hadd rated and assessed to the towne of Leicester to xxxli for the saide aide.

Item the 18th of December pd for sweepinge all Beare hill Crosse aboute the Cage. xiid.

Item paid to two pore men which Mr Fowks brought to Leicester to testifie to the Commissioners that satt att the Angell about the olde hospitall that dyvers poore men that receyved wages out of the same hospitall yett did not remayne and contynue in the howsse, and for all that had pencies in other places. xs.

Item paide to the Kings Maiestie for aide to make the noble prince Henrye his Maiesties eldest sonne knight out of all the lands of the Maior Bayliffes and Burgesses of Leicester both fee simple and fee farm. viii.

Item paid to William Fowler to avoyde his Clamacious speeches againste the Towne for taking downe a shoppe in the Saturdaye mar-kitt which was sometime in his occupacion. xls.

Item paid for Mulbery trees, commanded to bee bought and sett and plante in dyvers Countys of this Realme, by Letters from the lords of his Maiesties moste honorable privye Councell xxxx. vid.

Receipts	£834 17. 1. ob. q.
Payments	£930. 10. 10.
Town indebted to old Chamberlains.	{ £110. 15. 9.

XCIX. *Minutes of Common Hall*

Hall Papers IV, No. 469. [March 28, 1610.] *Item* it is allso further agreed to give Mr Tamworth £x or more not exceeding £xiij. vis. viijd. Att [illegible] the Chamberlins and such other of our Townesmen as shall talk with him in respect his patent is [for] thinheyritaunce of the Stewardshippe of the Towne of Leicester come to the Maior Bayliffes [and Burgesses] of the Borough of Leicester which some of monye is in full satissfaction of all demaunds by the said Mr [Tamworth] against the Corporacion.

C. Letter from Judge Parry

Hall Papers IV, No. 456. [July 7, 1610.] After my hartie Commendacions. The pore woman which hath exhibited the petition hereinclosed havinge a graunte of a Rome in the Hospitalle of Newarke doth entreate for permission to resigne her place to one, which will give her recompence for the same. In regard of her pore and distressed estate, I would wishe that you yourselfes would take her Bill into your owne handes and give her satisfaction for the same, and soe to place one of your owne election in her rome that soe you may as little as you can give way to the Billes soe graunted But to continue the ancient order to place the poore people of your owne Towne and Countie accordinge to the first institution.

CI. Doctors and the Pestilence

Hall Papers IV, No. 450. [July 26, 1610.] Right Worshipful, Whereas it hath pleased God to visite, as we understand with the pestilence your towne of Leycester together with sundrie other townes and villages in the countrie, to the great discomfort of the inhabitants and danger of further infection; in so much that, if the care and skill of some godly learned Physitions (the ordinary meanes of help next under Gods miraculous hand) be not used; it is to be feared, it will grow much more fearefull: May it please your Worshipp to understand that at the request of this gentleman Mr Potle, by degree of Schoole Batchelour in Physike (one well knowne in the Universitie to be both learned and iudicious, and having for xxiiij yeares agoe performed his exercise to be Doctor) wee could doe no lesse then give testimonie and commendacions, as of this his worth and sufficiencie, so more especially of his pietie and good affection towards his countrie, in that he hath travelled hither, and, for the good thereof hath procured a Councell of the most learned and grave Physitians in the Universitie and obtained their iugdments in writing under their hands, as well for remedies to cure the diseased of all sorts, as for preservatives to stay further infection; whereby, as by Gods gratiouse helps, we hope the lives of many shall be saved. And thus beseeching all mightie God to withdraw his heavie hand from amongst you, and to blesse the labours of those that travaile for their help and comfort: our commendacions remembred we take our leaves

Oxon this xxvjth of July 1610.

Your very loving frends

Leon Hutten Deputat Vic Oxon

John Spencer president of

Corpus Christi Colledge

CII. *Sir Thomas White's Gift*

Hall Book III, p. 339. [Aug. 24, 1610.] Memorandum that the xxiiijth of August * * * was receaved the firste fortie pounds of the Gifte of Sir Thomas White Knight from the Citi of Coventrie And on the xxiiijth of September next after lett forth vizt.

To George Brookes Ironmunner xli.

To Thomas Moseley Weyver xli.

To Thomas Clarke Shoomaker xli.

To Daniell Wright Bonelacemaker xli.

To have and hould the said severall somes of xli. a peece for the tearme of nyne yeares beginninge the Tenth of March last And they to sett the poore on worke in knitinge and spinning of Jersey and Weyveinge of Bone lace and such like worke fit for yonge Children.

CIII. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers IV, No. 459. [Aug. 31, 1610.] Imprimis theise two severall Acts hereunto annexed concerninge the keepinge of streets cleyne, and for strangers comynge to dwell in Leicester and usinge any Arte &c. Agreed to bee putt in Execucion &c. Item itt is allso Agreed that noe ffreeman of this Borough duringe the tyme of the vizitacion of the plague in the saide Borough shall remoave himselfe to dwell out of the saide Borough upon paine anye ffreeman soe offending to forfeyte weeklie xxs. To bee paide to the use of the vizited people in Leicester. And the said xxs. to bee levyed by the constable of the warde where the ffreeman dwelleth unles the said ffreeman shall have Lycense of the Maior Justices of the Peace and Aldermen of the warde where the said ffreeman dwelleth soe to remove himselfe out of the said Borough.

Item itt is allso agreed that Thomas Peale Constable of the South Gate (in lue of his paines [on behalf of] the vizited people (viz.) the plague in the said Sowth Gate, shall from hencefourth have [*illegible*] xiijs. ivd. for everye monethe the saide streete or gate bee soe vizited, and the said Peale [*illegible*] constable and performe the like service he formerlie hath theire done Amongst the said people.

Itt is allso further agreed that the Chamberlins of Leicester for the tyme beinge shall from hencefourth [grant] yearelie unto Mr Thomas Hunt under Usher of the ffree Schoole in Leicester xxs. for [and towards] his better maintenaunce, and the same xxs. to bee paide yeerelie duringe the pleasure of the [two] Companies of the xxiiij^{ti} and xlviij^{ti} or the greater part of them.

CIV. *Extract from letter from Mayor to Recorder*

Hall Papers IV, No. 494. [Sep. 17, 1610.] * * * we have therefore thought fitt to sende this bearer, to know your pleasure therein, ernestlie intreatinge your presence with us at the said election of our newe mayor for without your beinge there we knowe not howe to proceede theren, ytt hathe not beene knowne that our Recorder hath beene absent from us att the election of the Mayor, Assuringe your Worshipp we never hadd more neede of your presence then nowe we have, not doubting the contrarie but you maie safelie come to our towne, and if your Worshipp shall not thinke itt conveynient to come to Leicester that then you woulde be pleased to come to Tilton on St Matthews even and to Léicester on the next morning where att the hall after Sarmon you shall God willinge find us readie against your comyng. Soe shall we accompt ourselves muche beholdinge unto you for your Assistance att this our needfull tyme.

[The words "of our newe Mayor" are scratched out but are legible.]

CV. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers IV, No. 468. [Sep. 19, 1610.] This Common Hall was to have Appoynted iiiij of the Maiors Bretheren to bee putt in Election for the Maior against Saincte Mathewes daie nexte, and that both Companyes should electe the newe Maior out of one of those iiiij and non other, But the said Companies coulde not Agree whoe those iiiij men shoule bee, thereupon the hall broake upp and nothinge Agreed upon.

CVI. *Apportionment of Sir Thomas White's money*

Hall Papers IV, No. 445. [Sep. 24, 1610.] A Meeting of Mr Maior and his Bretherne. Itt is this present xxiiijth daie of September 1610 ordered and agreed that George Brooke Ironmonger Thomas Moseley Weyver Thomas Clarke Shoomaker and Daniell Wrighte bonlace-maker in Consideracion that everye of them shall from henceforthe sett the poore on worke in Knitting of Jersey and weyving bonlace and suche like works fitt for young children to learne and worke in, and everye one of them, to sett on worke suche a Competent number of poore people as shall bee thought meete and Conveynient for them to keepe in worke, shall have and receive the aforesaid some of ffortye pounds (viz.) tenn pounds to A man, and holde the saide some of xli. for the terme of nyne yeeres begynninge the tenth of March last past,

they and everye of them entering (with twoe sufficient sureties) into suche bonds and Covenants as shalbe thought fitt and conveynient by the Counsell learned of the Maior Bayliffs and Burgesses of the said Borough of Leicester.

CVII. Letter about the suspension of market because of the Plague

Hall Papers V, No. 14. [Nov. 4, 1610.] Right honorable our humble duties remembered Maie [it] please your good Lordship wee are given to understand by Sir Henrie Hastings of the Abbye of Leicester Knight (that in regard of the sicknes now in Leicester) itt is your honors pleasure that the Markitt holden theire shall from hencefourthe be forbidden to be kepte, And that itt shoulde be soe made known to all the Markytt Townes in the Countie of Leicester (which if itt be soe) we humblie intreate your honour to call backe and forbid Sir Henrie to performe your Comande therein for thancks be to God, as its well known to Sir Henrie that our Towne is not soe muche infected As gives iust cause to forbid our Markitt to bee kepte For blessed be God the wholl markitt place is cleere from Mistress Pilkingtons howse to the East gate and not one howse infected nor suspected, and without the East Gate all Belgrave gate on both sides and Galtrie gate where the Angell standeth there ys onlie one howse infected and one other howse suspected Thus Comendinge the premisses to your honours good Consideracion we humblie take our leaves Leicester this 4th of November 1610.

Your honors to Comande

John Mabbes Maior.

[Hall Papers IV, No. 463. Aug. 27, 1610. Angry letter to the Bailiff of Melton Mowbray complaining that he will not take the Corporation's assurance as to the health of the town.

— Hall Papers V, No. 90. June 3, 1611. Angry letter to Market Harborough. The Mayor says that they are "sorie that we are of noe better Creditt with you that a Certificate from the Maior and Aldermen of the borough cannot satisfie you unles M^r Doctor Chippingdale subscribe to the same. As though his insight to the state of Leicester for the sicknes of the plague was clearer than ours which are danielie over them, and he never."]

CVIII. Common Hall

Hall Papers V, No. 114. [Nov. 29, 1611.] Ale under the sive Assised att ij*d.* the gallon and non to be soule aboue upon paine of three shillings an foure pence for everye gallon (by any Common Brewer or other within the Boroughe of Leicester preseinctes and Lymitts of the same) uttered or soule to the Contrarye Candles

Assised att $iiijd.$ the pounde and non to bee soulde above upon paine
everye Chandler doinge or sellinge to the Contrarye to forfitt for everye
pounde soe soulde $iijs.$ $iiijd.$

The Acte made in the yeere of the Mairaltie of Mr Thomas Parker
Against Stranngers comynge to dwell in Leicester and Inmats to bee
presentlie putt in execution upon the paine therein mencioned.

And the twoe Severall Acts made (vicz) one for keepinge of the
streets cleyne in Leicester And the other against such parsons as
windowe Corne in the streets both to be put in execution.

Mr Walter Hastings his letter openley red in the behalfe of
Bartholomewe Lynsey to bee the Towne Gaoler, And whereas Mr
John Willne Bayliffe had formerlie past his promise that one William
Harrye of Leicester Tayllor should have the office of Gaolershippe.
The saide W^m Harrye is nowe Contented att the requeste of the
Common Hall to leave the said office of Gaolershippe. So that if anye
office fall this waye bee fittinge and in the Townes guifte, then they
to prefer the said William Harrye thereunto The which the Towne is
willinge to performe.

The Lycense for drawinge of wines within the Borough of Leicester
that which Raphe Chettell deceased latelie had is nowe grannted unto
Mr John Mabbs duringe the will and pleasure of the Maior Bailiffs and
Burgesses of the saide Borough for the Rent of $iiijl.$ per Annum
begynnynge att Michaelmas last for one wholl yeeres rent. And Mr
Mabbs to shewe fourth his Lycense upon Wensdaie nexte and upon
the receipte thereof to paie presentlie to thands of the Chamberlins
the said some of $iiijl.$ And Mr Mabbes to drawe his Wines within his
owne howse and not elles where in the saide Borough or liberties
thereof.

CIX. *Proclamation relating to lease of land.*

Hall Papers V, No. 30. [Dec. 10, 1610.] To all Christian people etc.
 * * * the Maior Bayliffs and Burgesses of the Borough of Leicester
 * * * have given and grannted * * * their full assents and
 Consents that from henceforth itt shall and maie be lawfull to and for
 John Chippingdale of the Newarke of Leicester in the said Countie of
 Leicester Doctor of the lawe, to demyse, sett and to farme Lett unto
 Josephe Jollye of Braunston in the aforesaid county of Leicester yeoman
 his executors administrators and Assigns All those three yarde lande
 parcell of Eighte yarde lande belonginge to the Graunge called the
 Newarke Graunge in the Borough of Leicester aforesaide in the afore-
 saide Countie of Leicester Lyinge and beinge in the Sowthe feilds of the

saide Borough of Leicester (that is to saie) in everye of the feilds theire Twentie and one acres or theire abouts To geither with all suche Meadowes Tyinge grasse Leyes Commons and Common of Pasture whiche are usuallie sett fourth and appoynted to goe with and for three yarde lande accordinge to the use and Custome of yarde lands and which nowe are in the tenure use or occupacion of the said John Chippingdale or of his Assigues, for and duringe all such tyme and terme of yeeres as is mencioned and expressed in one Indenture of Lease made and graunted by the saide Maior etc. * * to the said John Chippingdale and his Assigis of the Moietie or halfe parte of the Graunge before mencioned and of the lands Meadowes and pastures to the same belonginge or for Lees or terme of yeeres att the will and pleasure of the said John Chippingdale or his Assigis without anie manner or lett or trouble of or by the saide Maior Bailiffs Burgesses * * or of anie parson or parsons claymyng in by from or under them.

[Hall Papers V, No. 28. Nov. 30, 1610. Common Hall authorised John Chippingdale to sublease 3 yard lands to Joseph Jolly.]

CX. *Change of place for fair*

Hall Papers V, No. 27. [Dec. 8, 1610.] Theise are to give notice [to] all persons that the faior which is holden att Leicester on tuesday the viijth daie of December next Commynge, and whereas heretofore the saide faior for all kinde of marchaundizes the Beas[t] and horse faior have beene holden and kepte betwene S. Sondais bridge and the fourther end of the Sowthe gate in the Borough of Leicester Itt is nowe for the good of the wholl Countie and for all Comers to the said faior that the same faior for all manner of Marchaundiz and other things theire to be soulde shalbe kept and holden in the Saturdaie markitt of the said burgh of Leicester, the beasts faior, to be kepte in the northe gate, and the horsfaior to be likewise holden and kepte in Galtrie gate of the same Borough.

The Proclamacion made att the faior holden the viijth of December 1610.

God save the Kinge.

CXI. *Meeting of Mayor and some Aldermen*

Hall Papers V, No. 31. [Dec. 27, 1610.] Itt is ordered and Agreed that theire shalbe A Newe yeeres guifte sent to the Earle of Huntingdon against new yeeres tide nexte Butt not soe greate as heretofore lately hath beene sent, in respect, the Towne hath beene att such extra-ordynarie Charge about the vyzited people viz the plague this yeere and soe continueth.

Itt is all so Agreed to sende Mr Recorder A new yeeres guifte against the tyme aforesaide, being butt of smalle worth, as to the value of xx.s. or foure nobles or theire abouts, And the Towne not to sende anye newe yeeres guifte to anie ells where for this yeere.

CXII. Meeting of the Twenty-four

Hall Papers V, No. 38. [Jan. 25, 1610/11.] Att this meeting is elected and chosen John Flampson to bee one of the Under Bayllies, Seriant at mace and Attorney in the Courte of Recorde of the Borough of Leicester, And to bee attendant Aswell in the Courte aforesaide as otherwise ells where. As the Maior and Aldermen of the said Borough of Leicester shall seeme necessarie and in full Courte of the said Borough admitted and sworne.

In full Courte of the Borough aforesaid John Willne gentleman admitted and sworne Bayliffe of the saide Borough of Leicester and Keeper of the Gaole of the same Borough As the firste Turne of the Maior Bayliffs and Burgesses of the Borough aforesaide. nota that the nexte Bayliffe and keeper of Gaole aforesaide to be chosen by the right honourable the Earle of Huntingdon or the heires males of his bodie.

CXIII. Letter from George Wadland

[Hall Papers V, No. 47. [Feb. 8, 1610/11.] M^r Sherman has brought his case against the town into court to be tried by Common Law. M^r Recorder has applied for an injunction in the Duchy Court to have the case moved there.]

"So as the matter maye receive a Censure in that Courte in equitye, rather then to hazard yt at Common Lawe upon a Jurye of ignorant men as often yt happeneth."

CXIV. Thomas Wright's Case before the Mayor and Aldermen

Hall Papers V, No. 45. [Feb. 16, 1610/11.] Twoe loves of breade (vicz) rie breade called vj pennye loves of Thom: Wrights of Leicester baker beinge complained of for their smalnes: and beinge made contrarie to the Statute in that case made and provided which loves are usuallie soule by the said Thomas Wright for vjd. a peece Thereupon M^r Maior commanded that Sixe pennye worth of M^r Woodfords breade shoulde be waied in the Town ballance against one of the said Thomas Wrights vj pennye loves and theire were wantinge in the said Thomas Wrights vj penye lose xvij oz and better in weight then vj penyeworth of the said M^r John Woodfords breade. Thereupon gave ij vjd. loves of the said Wrights bread Awaike to the Gaole to the prisoners there and other poore in the Borough of Leicester.

CXV. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers V, No. 57. [? 1610.] *Item* it is ordered and Agreed that George Howett shall paye his fine of *vli.* for the redemption of the office of Chamberlinshippe, And from henceforth for Ever hee the saide George to bee discharged the[reof].

Item itt is allso ordered and agreed that Thomas Pestell John Wilde and John Overende shall forthwith paye theire fines of fyftie shillings A peece for the redemption of the said office of Chamberlinshippe [notwith]-standinge they and everie of them are contented, (that if they) or anye of them shall fortune to be [chosen to] bee Chamberlin of the saide Borough then hee or they to serve the said office of Chamberlinshippe withall wil[lingness].

CXVI. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1609-10**Other Receipts.*

[Four of the 48 pay £5 each for redemption of Chamberlainship, namely George Howell, Thomas Pestell, John Wylde John Overend.]

Item received of M^r William Fowks in Michaellmas terme 1609 when the towne was sheweing out a patent of the olde hospitall, Att which tyme the right Honorable the Earle of Huntingdon desired to be master of the said Hospitall *xli.* which was towards the charge of M^r Nicholas Gillott, M^r Chamberlain who were then at London about the said Patent.

Item received of M^r Robert Heyricke which gave to the Towne towards the reparre of the Spittlehouse Bridge and Causey *xs.*

Item received of M^{ris} Elizabeth Haslewood two corsletts one pike, a muskett a sworde and dagger, which was given by her to the Towne. *Armour.*

Paiements for the saide yeere etc.

[The payment to Kyndersley, Late Sir Edward Hastings Knight drops out.]

Guifts of Wyne Rewards etc.

[Payments for Players; the Prince's, Lord Albany's, Lord "Arrendale's" Lord Albany's.

Reparacions etc.

Item paid for dressinge and trymynge up the twoe Corslettss which M^{ris} Heslewood did this yere give to the Towne for a new yeeres guifte. *xvis.*

[Various entries relating to the repair of wool hall.

Repair of Town Hall, M^r Parker's House, Spittlehouse bridge and Causeway. Saturday market.

Charges in suits of law. £55. 5s. 6d.]

Item in Michaelmas terme Anno vii Jacobi Regis Anglie etc. paide for the charge of M^r Nicolas Gillott and M^r Chamberline Nurce beinge sent to London upon thagreement with M^r Fowkes and the Towne, for his patent of the olde hospitall, and for the charge and fees in the duchie office and to M^r Chancellor of the said Duchie his Messenger: at which tyme they had allmoste shewed out the patent of the said hospitall in the Townes name to the Duchie seale. And then the Earle of Huntingdon desired to bee Master of the saide hospitall: the which was grannted unto him and thereupon his Lordshippe became Fowkes chapman for the said hospitall patent, And other busines of the Townes beinge oute xxiiij*ti* daies from Leicester As well about the said patent, As allso about the said constats. **xxij*li*.** vis. vid.

Fees etc.

Item the xix daie of October paide for the charges and horshier of M^r Chamberline Nurce and Thomas Stanford to Ashebie to the Earle of Huntingdon aboute the conveyance whiche did passe betweene the towne and the said Earle about the Baylliwick Stewardshipp of Leicester vis. vid.

Item the tenth of November paid for fees in the Commonsaries Courte upon proces for not repayringe the Chauncell of S. Maries Churche xiii*jd*.

Item then the sixteenth of Nov. paid for the Wrytings and bonds from M^r Fowkes to the Towne for his surrender of his patent to them of the said hospitall vjs. viijd.

Item paide to Bowett Crofte for hurdells to hurdell in the vizited people and theire howses to be knowene from others in the towne vis. iiijd.

Item the xvi daie of Februarie paide to Clement Greene for watching att the west bridge for woodstealers out of the forreste ijs.

Item given to Richard Yates Cutler and William Grasdue whoe promised to have gonne for the Towne to keepe theire possession of the Frythe Closes against one John Sharman gent but would not goe thither viijd.

Item given to Roberte Nicolls for his being att the said Frith Closes vijd.

Item paide to George Langley for drawinge the Kinges Armes and the Armes of the Marchant Tayllors in London: in remembrance of Sir Thomas White Knight that doth give forty pounds to the Towne of Leicester everye fyveth yeere to bee lent to foure younge tradesmen in Leicester for nyne yeeres in free loane this beinge the firste yeere of them received. xls.

Item paide for the frame for the said armes beinge both in one vis. vid.

Item paide to Mr Devorax Aston for his charges in suite of lawe againste Mr James Andrewe late Maior for assisinge his butter in our Markitt vli. vis. ijd.

Item paide to Mr Christopher Tamworth upon compozicion or agreement with him for and about the patent of the Stewardshippe of our Towne Courte whiche hee had procured from Sir John Fortescue then Chancellor of the Duchie. xijli. vis. viiid.

Item paide for the charges and horsshier of Roger Hawfeilde to Mr Recorders for his comynge to the election of the newe Maior on Saincte Mathewes daie whoe by reason of the sicknes called the plague in Leicester then would not come. vs.

Item of the overplus of the fifteen monye paide to Mr James Andrewe which he had laide fourth in his Mairaltie for the relieve of the vizited people. xx.s.

CXVII. *The Newark*

[Press. 22. 12. (no number). 1611.]

Case to be tried as to whether the Newarke is to be assessed for the subsidy with the County.

The King has lately granted "the said Newarke among other new liberties within the said borough." The Newarke before this grant was "always held as an exempt place from the said county" and it was never taxed for the subsidy with the county. At the assessment of the last subsidy, however, "understanding that they were assessed within the borough" the inhabitants "procured themselvas to be taxed with the county."]

Hall Papers V, No. 116. [Nov. 15, 1611.] The order is that the country shall have theyr money backe agayn out of the court and shall pay it to the collector of Leyster upon shewing of thre records fetcht out of the tower by Mr Bullyant [?] which prov directly that Newark was ever within Leyster and therfor though we had no new libertys it is within the burrowe and so was the opinion of the court. And the town is greatly bound to theyr recorder. Of myself I will say nothing.

J. Wyncoll.

CXVIII. *Taxation for Plague Stricken*

Hall Papers V, No. 58. [March 31, 1611.] A true note or certificate from the Maior Bailliffs and Burgesses of the Borough of Leicester to the Kings Maties Justices of the peace in the County of Leicester That sithence Maie last past there hath beene nyne severall taxacions or layers Amongst thinhabitants of the best sorte within the same Boroughe for and towards the releife of all suche persons as have beene (and att this present are) infected with the sycknes called the plague. And for providinge A pest howse for the said vizited people Amounting to the somme of CCxxli.

And the Chamberlins of Leicester (besides the said six severall layers) have allreadie laid out of their owne monye for the releife of the said vizited people xxxli or theire abouts.

Summa total CCLli.

The Weekelie charge of the said vizited people att this present is iijli.

The weeklie charge of the said vizited people hath beene viijli.

Beside the greate charge which everye severall parishe in Leicester is att weekelie for ye releife of there need full poore people.

[List of 16 houses still visited with plague.]

The wholl charge for the releife of the vizited people is CCCvjli.
ijs. ijd.

Hall Papers V, No. 59. [April 12, 1611.] To the righte Worshippful the Kings Maties Justices of the peace of his heighnes Countie of Leicester or anye twoe of them.

Wee the Maior and Justices of peace of the Borroughe aforesaid doe hereby certifie unto you that sithence September 1609 the wholl charge for the releife and provision of suche parsons as (have beene, and att this present are) vizited with the sicknes called the plague doth Amounnt to the some of CCCvjli. ijs. ijd.

Att this present theire are xxii howsses in the saide Boroughe vizited with the said sicknes, in which howses are manye parsons and for theire releife the weeklye charge Amounteth to iiiijli. or theire abouts.

Therefore wee ernestlie intreate that some Collectyon maye bee made (accordinge to the Statute in that case made and provided) for the better releife of the saide vizited people, As to your wisdomes shalbe thought fytt.

Hall Papers V, No. 63. [April 17, 1611.]

[Order from County Justices to the Constables "of all and singuler the Townes hereunder wrytten" to collect weekly contributions for Leicester at the following rates.]

Aeylston	ijs.	Wiggeston	ijs.
Blabye	ijs.	Foston	xvijjd
Whetston	ijs.	Odebye	ijs.

Countisthorpe	ijs.	Knighton	ijs.
Glenparva	xvijd.	Wistowe	ijs.
Kylbye	ijs.	Scraptofte	ijs.
Stretton magna	ijs.	Burton Overye	ijs.
Stretton parva	xxd.	Bushbye	xxd.
Stoughton	ijs.	Thurnebye	xxd.
Evington	ijs.	Houghton	ijs.
Humbuston	ijs.	Belgrave	ijs.
		Walter Hastings	
		J. Chippingdale	

CXIX. Papers relating to the Newark Hospital

Hall Papers V, No. 86. [May 23, 1611.] Right honourable our humble dewties remembered. Maie it please your honour in further answere of your most honourable Letters in the behalfe of the Almeshouse of the Newark in Leicester for redress of some wrongs by the late Maisters thereof to be advertized that Whereas upon the perusinge of the Wrytings and Evidence now wee fynde in the sayde house and conference had with the most auntient Almesmen of the same Wee perceave the mayntenancce and government of the same howsse hath beene and is in this manner. Namely a Weekelie stipende of vijd. ob. With some allowance towards gownes for everye Almesbodie there And fewell in Common for their necessarye use by the Yearelie pay-
ment of some of CCxxvli. ijs. by the Kings most gratiouse Mat^e forth of his highnes Duchie of Lancaster. Which hath bene and is in the disposition of the Maister or governor of the same Almeshouse alone for the tyme beinge. And also by an Yearely divident arisinge forth of the revenewe of some smalle quillets of lande, given to the Almesmen of the same howse by some of their fellowes and other well disposed people, and of the benefitt of there store house arising by the goods at the death of the Almespeople there leavinge by order of the house all their goods to the use of the house, which have bene in the disposition and government of the said Maister or governor and of foure Almesmen Yerely chosen by the residewe of the Almesmen for that purpose. Nowe so it is maie it please your good honour that divers of the evidence and wrytings concerninge the said quillets of lande are wantinge the lande deteyned and the Yerely rent usuallie paide to the house for the same now denyed. And that the same was done in the tyme, that one William Fowkes gentleman was late maister of the same Almeshouse, and it is vehementlie suspected by his meanes concent and privitye. And that some of the same evidence and wrytings were lefte in the Custodie of the sayde William Fowkes wife, or of his

frende, Thomas Shakespeare of Lutterworth gent: Moreover maie it please your good honour that whereas about seaven yeares now last past the house was contented the said William Fowkes there then maister shoulde inclose and buylde a leanto contayninge aboute foure Yards in breadth and nyne in length uppon parte of there church Yarde, with some of the house tymber for his necessarie easement duringe such tyme as he should contynew their Maister and there dwell and then to leave it to the use of the house. Nowe so it is that the sayde maister Fowkes is gone and not ordinarilie to be founde, and hath grannted the sayde leanto over to one Henrye Hennings gent not receiving or payinge any Rente or other consideracion att all to the house for the same. And also that whereas aboute foure yeares now last past in Consideracion of the sayde William Fowkes there then Maister his paynes takinge for the house in avoydinge of soldiers and other suits the house had to the right honourable the Channcellor of his Ma^{ties} duchie of Lancaster. The foure men of the sayde Almeshouse were Contented to grannte him from yeare to yeare for Tenn Yeares for his owne use onelye there gardyn or orchard called the Castell garden, for twentie shillings Yearely Rent payinge a yeares rente aforehande Whereof he paide them some twoe Yeares Rente accordingle Nowe so it is the sayde William Fowkes is gone as aforesayde and hath lett the same to the said Henrye Hennings and hath taken a fyne for the same. And the hospitall have neyther Rente nor fyne for the same. And the said Henrye Hennings holdeth the gardyn from the house by pretence of Fowkes sayde grannte. In tender consideracion of all which premises in behalfe of the sayde poore Almeshouse Wee humblie desire your honours Consideracion, restinge moste willinge and re(ady) accordinge to the orders of the same howse to execute and effecte whatsoever your good honour shall order and decree there. And thus not beinge for the presente provided of any further answeare to your honours sayde Letters, untill wee maie further understande of the sayde Evidences that are wanting by the sayde Thomas Shackspeares Mr Fowkes wifes meanes or otherwise as to your honour maye seeme meete Humblie desiringe the Contynewance of your most honorable favour towards us and the sayde howse, with remembrance of our ever more bounden diewtie we humblie take our leaves from Leicester this three and twentith of Maie 1611 restinge

Your honours moste humble to be commanded

John Mabbs Maior	James Andrewe
W ^m Morton	Thomas Manbie
James Ellys	John Willne

Hall Papers V, No. 220. [No date.] To the Kings most excellent Maiestye. Humblye sheweth unto your highnes the pore people of your Matyes old hospitall in the Newarke neare Leicester in the Countye of Leicester being in number one hundred and ten maynteyned by your Maiestye That wheras Henrye Gresmond duke of Lancaster in the yeare of the Nativity of our Lord God 1330 founded the Colledge and hospitall of the Newarke in the countye of Leicester aforesayd and gave greate landes and revenues for the maynteynance of the sayd Colledge and hospitall and incorporated the sayd hospitall to the sayd Colledge and made yt as yt weare one in government thearewith And ordeyned and constituted the Deane of the sayd Colledge of Newarke to bee perpetuall Master and Governor of the sayd hospitall and allowed A hundred pore people weekelye in those dayes seaven pence halfe pennye a peece for their maynteynance in the sayd hospitall and competent fyeringe yeerelye and everye second yeare everye one of them a gowne And allowed ten keepers in the sayd hospitall ten pence a peece weekelye to attend keepe and looke unto the sayd hundred pore people and left greate lands and revenues for the perpetuall maynteynance of the sayd hundred and ten pore people that in time of dearth the wages and allowances of the sayd pore people might bee increased duringe the tyme of the sayd dearth which was often done by the Deanes whylest the Colledge stode as by the wrytings and recordes yet remayninge in the sayd hospitall yt doth and maye appeare But so yt ys maye yt please your Matye that by the suppression of the sayd Colledge in the tyme of King Edward the Sixt the landes of your Maiestyes pore people came to the handes of the sayd Kinge the hospitall then beinge incorporated to the sayd Colledge as ys afore sayd and have ever since remayned in the Crowne And the sayd Kinge Edward, Queen Marye, Queene Elizabeth and your Matye ever synce the suppression of the sayd Colledge have allowed your sayd hundred pore people seaven pence halfe pennye weekelye and the sayd ten keepers ten pence weekelye with convenient fyeringe yearly and gownes everye second yeare But whereas the tyme now ys much dearer and harder to lyve then yt was eyther at the foundacion or suppression of the sayd Colledge and that for want of maynteynance the world growinge harder and everye thinge dearer your pore people are almost readye to famish and sterue havinge onlye but seaven pence halfe pennye a peece to live of weeklye. Maye yt thearefore please your Matye in commiseracion of your pore people in regarde the Landes that should releeve your pore people came in this sorte to the handes of Kinge Edward the Sixt and have been ever synce remayninge

in the Crownē (which yf they weare in the handes of your sayd pore people weare suffcyentlye able to dubble or rather treble theire present weekelye allowance and mainteynance) in some sorte to consider of the greate wants of your sayd pore people and out of your charitable disposicion and gratiouse bountye in some measurable degree to releeve theise your Maties pore people in theire extreame miseryes and wants And they, as theire dewtye ys, and as they are alreadye bound for the weekelye gratuitye and benevolence they doe receave from your Maiestye, shall and wyll praye to god for the longe contynuance of your Maiestye in health, welth, and all princelye happines in this liffe; and eternall ioy and blessednes in the liffe to come.

CXX. *Letter to the Recorder about the Plague*

Hall Papers V, No. 75. [June 2, 1611.] Sir our hartie commendacions remembered theis are accordinge to promise in our former letters to certifie you the present state of our towne concerning the sicknes: Videlicett in Belgrave gate there is some increase yet god be prayed we thinke and assure ourselves in generall the same doeth rather decrease then otherwise for that there died of the sicknes the laste weeke xix, this weeke but xj. And the wholl streete betwene the East gate and the hie Crosse stands sound and cleare and allsoe the wholl streete about the Judges lodging, and from thence to the Castle stands free and cleire save onlie one howse towards the neither end of the streete betwene theire Lodinge and the Castle which is standing on the lefte hand as the Judges ride thence to ye Castle. And thancks be to God the north part of the towne stands free and cleyre And since the begininge of the sicknes with us hath not beene any one Inne visited and not above foure Victuallinge houses and those of smalle receite so that there is with us sufficient entertayntment for the Countrie that shalbe occasioned to the Assises in suche places as were never visited and that we truste without any danger And thus with remembrance of our bounden dewties to our very good lords the Judges now humblie take our leaves restinge

Your worshipps most lovinge friends

John Mabbs Maior	James Ellice
Roberte Heyricke	James Andrewe
William Morton	

CXXI. *Letter to the Bishop about monthly Preachers*

Hall Papers V, No. 228. [Sept. 8, 1611.] Right Reverend, whereas of late it hath seemed good to your Lordship to make staye of the monethlie meetinge of the Preachers at Leicester. We the Maior and his brethren and other the inhabitants there in regarde of the greate good that our whole Towne (and manie also of the country) have receaved by their learned and godlie sermons for the space of fortie yeares and more, have thought it our parts to yeilde this our true testimonye unto soe manye as have preached amongst us upon that occasion. That as our whole Countrie thinketh them to bee men well worthie of theire place, not onlie in all other respects, but also for theire right iudgment and good affection to the government established, so wee in theire sermons here have never harde anie cause to suspecte the contrarie of anye of them: nor ever seene, or knowne anie hurte or matter worthie of blame to have happened in theire meetings, or by meanes thereof. In consideracion whereof we are the more bold to intreate your Lordship (as earnestlie as wee maie) that by your good leave and favour wee maie be still partakers of theire godlie labors to the good of manye soules, as heretofore we have beene. So shall wee more hartelie both praise God, and praie unto him for your Lordship beinge often provoked and stirred up unto those dueties by our enioyinge the aforesaid benefite, for that by your meanes wee have it continued amongst us. And so recommending you unto the Allmighty's most gratious protection in humble manner wee take our leave

Leicester the viijth of September.

[Signed by J. Freake, Mayor and a number of other leading men—18 in all.]

CXXII. *Papers relating to a suspected Papist*

Hall Papers V, No. 104. [Oct. 1611.] Sir for so muche that I am Requested to signefie my knowledge of the creddit of the Gentleman Mr Francis Flitwoode who is committed upon a Base quarell by meanes of an ordernary persone and searche made of him as dowtinge him to be an offendour of his maiesties lawes concerninge papistize or some other respects. I saye (withe reverence unto you autoretie) and out of my love to you and youre towne, I wolde that you had firste inquired after his creddit, before you had committed him for [the] Causes aforesayd. Thus much I doe signefye unto you upon my Credit, that he is a gentlman of an In of Cowerte and of great [*illegible*], his

Eldest brother is Sir William Flittwood one of the prinsipall Gentillmen Ushers upon our moste noble prince Henry and he is Surveyor generill of the princes Equaries whose Syster Sir Thomas Challinor the princes Govenor married and as for his meantenance his mother and frends dothe so mutche tender and love him that he hathe yearly two hundred pounds fore his meantenance and expenses. So that yf I maye advise (out of my simple Judgment) so discrit a Company that you wolde in Curteouse mannor of [illegible] to geave him frendly releasement to recover the goode woerde of him and his frends then otherwise [illegible] By [illegible] to cawse them to [illegible] the contrarye. against you Thus submittinge the premisses unto your advised Consideracion and haveinge noe better [illegible] of paper at this instant doe Crave pardon for my boldnese and doe humbly take leave and rest your faythfull frend eaver to dispose of

James Grey

Langley this 9 day of
October anno domini 1611.

[The MS is not torn or defective but it is very difficult to read.]

No. 102. [Oct. 9, 1611.] The Accusacion of Mr William Ives to the [illegible] of Francis Fletwood taken the ixth of October 1611.

The said William [Ives] saith that Francis Fletwood beinge at his house one twosday last in the evening startinge upp from the benche swore by gods bloude I would those Inglsmens throats weare Cutt and the aftorwardes startinge upp againe said a pox of those Inglishe men I would they were all hanged and then the said Mr Ives said those are great words is not the Kinge of Inglannde an Inglishman and the said Fletwood said noe he is a Scottishman and those were spoken in the presence of Bowell Crofts and Mr Robert Wright.

CXXIII. Letter to the Bishop relating to fall of S. Leonard's roof

Hall Papers V, No. 108. [Nov. 30, 1611.] To the Right Reverend father in God our verie good Lorde the Lord Bishoppe of Lincoln.

The humble petition of the Maior Baillifs and Burgessesses of the Borough of Leicester Sheweth unto your good Lordshippe that whereas upon the Saboth daie in the morninge beinge the xxiiijth daie of this instant moneth of November A little before devine service parte of the Iles of the parishe Churche of S. Leonarde neire Leicester viz the leade roofe and stonne fell downe to the grounde, which fall hath soe weakened that parte of the saide Churche which is nowe standinge that if present repaire be not there made is like to fall into

greate decaye. The Inhabitants thereof beinge fewe in nomber and not aboue iiiij parsons able to contribute towards the buildinge upp of the same And upon viewe taken wee finde soe muche of the saide Churche standinge as will well and sufficientlie serve and receyve the wholl Inhabitants of the said parishe Wee therefore most humblie intreate your good Lordshipp to graunt unto the saide Inhabitants that parte of [the] saide Churche alreadie faulne, to upholde and repaire the other part [thus] nowe standinge in decaie And in soe doinge shall bind us, and the said Inhabitants dailie to praye for your Lordshipps healthe Dated at the Guildha[ll] of the Borough of Leicester aforesaid under our hands and Common Seale of the said Boroughe the last wensdaie of November * * 1611.

[Signed by Mayor, Town Clerk, etc.]

CXXIV. *A refractory apprentice*

Hall Papers V, No. 128. [Dec. 29, 1611.] Good M^r Maior I am forced boeth abruptlie and too boldly to make knownen unto you the ill behaviour of a stubborn boye towards his Master but I doubte not but penurie (if no other meanes) will abate his pride and bring him to humylitie. Sir if I might intreate you to use your good exhortacions to so stubborn a youth in perswading of him to his master againe, I shall thincke my selfe muche beholding unto you assureing you of any serviceable accion I maie any waies either doe or procure for you in Nottinghamshier, I hare from him in a letter sent by this bearer that you comanded him to wryte unto me and have sent to him a nother which I beseech you to command the sight thereof, if I can dispatcht my busines, this night I meane, god willing, to be at Dixley with M^r Fetherston there, if my sonne will vouchsafe to send me a noate of recantacion thither eyther this night or tomorrow before seaven of the clocke I will from thence come forthwith to Leicester if not I referre him to the extremytie of the lawe And thus craveing pardon for my boldnes I humbly take my leave

Yours wherein he maye
George Wright.

CXXV. *Claims to places in the Newark*

Hall Papers V, No. 133. [Jan. 30, 1611/12.] The names of them that pretende A Graunt or place in the hospitall in the Newarke of Leicester Asfolloweth (vicz)

[There follows a list of fourteen names with sums noted opposite, for example.

"Richarde Dixon by Jane his wife M^r Fowkes hath his bill but can shewe neyther bill nor Copie and dwelleth in Sowthwark iiijs.

Theise parsons were never in paie" vicz :—then follows another list of eleven names beginning with Julian Lawncey of Westminster.]

Md geven theis parsons amongst them more iijs. vjd. Md theis parsons aboue named that have received theis severall sommes have taken and received the same in full discharge of theire clayme and challenge to any place or Almesroome and place in his Maties great Almeshouse in the Newarke in Leicester theis beinge witnesses aswell thereof as also that the same was geven them at the request of the right honourable Sir Thomas Parrie Knight Chancellor of the Duchie.

John Freake Maior	Thomas Ward
Saint Sauveur	Roger Hawfeild.

CXXVI. *Letter from Lutterworth about the Plague*

Hall Papers V, No. 79. [No date.] M^r Maior. Theis are to signiffye unto you howe That Certayne of your towne of Leicester; videlicet, a younge fellowe, and towe or three weomen, came hither uppon Saterdaye nighte laste and uppon Sondaie nighte the fellowe sickened of the plague; yt rose in his Gryne, which beeinge discerned by the people, wheare he laye, The putt him forth of theire howse, whence he departed, to come againe towards your Towne, but fell downe and died in our feildes, wheareupon without the especiall mercye of god, wee are in greate danger, and must needs thinke their is very improvident respects had of your Infected; letteinge them thus to straggle abroade to the hurte of your neighbours. In regarde wheareof, wee thoughte good to Advertize you, not onlie, of this accident, but alsoe That you take order for the keepinge your neigboures and Tradsmen at home, for excepte you precizelye certifie of their saffetye And that the doe not Inhabite neare, wheare the sicknes of the plague is, wee have resolved to kéepe them whollye out of our Towne boeth on markett daies, and other tyms, untyll, yt please God to staie his hande, touchinge That visitacion And soe hopeinge you will not onlie, publish the effecte of

this accident, but alsoe our purpose of holdeinge your Tradesmen forth of our Towne, with our hartye Comendaceons, wee comitt you to god and reste your verye loveinge neighbours to use

It seemeth The name of the aboue named fellow whoe is deceased and dead with us was John Yorke.

Thomas Shakespeare etc.

CXXVII. *Archbishop of Macedonia*

Hall Papers V, No. 109. [No date.] Whereas this grave man the bearer hereof Josephe beinge seated in the Anncent Cittie of Phillipes nowe called Seris as Arche Bisshoppe for the wholl kingdome and province of Macedonia was by reason of the persecution of the Turks and Jewes whom verie eagerly prosecuted him for the payment of an Anncent tribute of Thirtie thowsand Crownes for which hee was pledge for Mathias late patriarche of Constantinople as by sundrye Certificats by him shewed to the Kings Maiestie appeyreth. And is now Licensed by Charles Earle of Nottingham, Lorde heighe Admyrall of Englande to travel through the Kings domynyons to Aske the Charitable Devotion of all Christians to redeeme him selfe from the Turkishe Slaverye As by the same Lycense more at lardge appeyreth.

Nottingham.

CXXVIII. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1610-11*

Rents received for the Graunge etc.

Md: that the xxli. which hath beene paid by Mr Walter Hastings and George Somerfielde for the yeerelie rent of the frythe closes belonginge to the Newarke Graunge in Leicester doth lye in deposito by an order made in the duchie chamber att Westminster untill the cause betwene the Maior Baylliffs and Burgesses of Leicester and John Sharman for the title of the said closes shall receyve a full hearinge and determynynge in the said corte.

Guifts of wine, rewards, etc.

Item the xijth daie of June paide for wyne suger and cheyries given to Mr Walter Hastings att London whoe went to the Judges to moave them to holde the Assizes att Leicester notwithstandinge the sicknes of the plague beinge then in severall places in Leicester. iijs. iiijd.

[Payments to Players. Queen's Players.]

Reparacions made etc.

Item paid for a newe paire of Stocks to stand in the Saturdaie Markitt. xv.s.

Item paid for neyles used abouthe the old shoppe or Maiors old hall vid.

[Charges in suite against Sharman concerning the frythe closes. £52. 13. 2.]

Charges about such parsons as have this yeere been vizited.

Item paid for a horsse hier for Chamberlain Fawsitt to pawley of Croson to take his gardin neire the west bridge to make a pest howse of. xiid.

Fees wages etc.

Item to Mr Jesson for the Lammas tythe of the pest howsse this yeere. ijs.

Item paide for the charges and horsse hier of Roger Hawfeilde to Lutterworth to Mr Recorder about the presentment att the Castell of Leicester of the inhabitants of S. Maries parishe for not mendinge the heigh wayes in Brawnston gate and watrye lane ijs. iiijd.

Item paide for a horsse hier for him to Ashebye fallowe to Sir Francis Smythe Knight Collector of the fifteenth for the County of Leicester to shewe him our Constant to forbid him to receyve the fifteene of the Bysshoppes fee in the Subburbs of the Borough of Leicester xiid.

Item paid for his charges and horsse hier to Bildsdon to the Clarke of the Markitt for the County of Leicester to forbide him to call before him anye of the inhabitants of the saide fee with theire weights and measures. xviiid.

Item paide to Richarde Mole for Contynewinge the accion in the towne Courte betwene the newe and olde Chamberlains for the monye due upon the foote of thacompte of William Thorpe and Thomas Nurce late Chamberlains iiijs. viiid.

Item paid for the charges and horsse hier of our Towne Clarke to the Assizes att Okeham to the Judge there with Letters to them to hold the Assizes att Leicester whoe could not alter they Records from Hinckley iijs. vid.

Item paid for his charges and horsse hier to Faxon to Mr Recorder to procure his comynge to the election of the Newe Maior but by reason of his sicknes then coulde not come hither iiijs. vid.

CXXIX. *Wood stealing at Bradgate*

Hall Papers V, No. 164. [April 16, 1612.] Mr Mayor I have herewith sent you such disorderlye persons, as nether with faire meanes nor with foule will ether leave or desist from spoyleing my woods quicksetts and brooms to the valew of a Cli. a yeare at the least and that you shale know yt to be true somme of them was taken but yesterdaye and the rest Commonlye knowne to be ordinary offenders and nowe yt ys growne to that hight, that somme of them saye per[emp]torielye they will not forbear doe what I Can: for my owne parte I would be very loathe to shewe the extremitie of the lawe if otherwise they would be reformed. And I doe request your ayd and assistance in respect they dwell in a privilidged place yt I can not doe nor deale with them as I could if the weare of the Shier and therefore if theis abuses by your Care be not redressed, I must for beare selling of wood at all, which I thinke will be noe great ease to your towne, and lesse commoditie to me. Thus hopeing bye your good meanes hereafter I shale not be abused or trubled with them I commend me verye hartilye unto you and rest.

Your loving frend

Broadgate this xvi of Aprill 1612.

Henry Graye.

[Adds note giving names of recent offenders he has examined.] * * and that it may appeare more manifest unto you, if you please to appoint anie but to take a vew of them of Satterdayes in your Markett they maye find yt most true, as I have bene credablye informed if the time be not now past, and howsoever they may seeme to excuse themselves by saying the had them not in my woods yett you know yt must needs be great hurt to the Common Wealthe Wheresoever they had them. And therefore even for Gods cause and for the good of our Cuntrye I doe request you to have a Care hereof.

CXXX. *Letter relating to sale of town houses*

Hall Papers V, No. 185. [June 2, 1612.] Sir. I am become an earnest sutor unto your worship in the behalf of Mistres Parker a. citizen of London, who was one of olde W^m Smithes dauchters at the West bridge: And for as much as Comission is now graunted for the sale of certen of the towne howses. She is an humble sutor, That you would be pleased to lett her have the howse before any other. * * It is a verie reasonable demaund for although she be not a town dweller, yet she is a towne borne childe, and purposeth to come and dwell there in tyme, and to doe some good in the towne. * * * And

if any body else should take the house over her head, Mary Smith would be starke madd agayne, and would never rest comyng upp to London to her sister to rayle upon her for not taking yt (as she hath done already) And besides, though Mistres Parker dwell in London, yet she will repayre and mayneteyne yt, as well as any townesman. And therefore (under correction) I doe not thinke yt fitt, that you should altogeaither leane to who will give most; I must needs saie yt is a shamefull qualitie of many of your townesmen of Leicester, that care what they give, to buy their neighbours howse over his head: And besides, this was not her Matres intent when she made the graunt to the towne; for yt was for the good of the poore, and that still the poore tennants might be well dealt withall. But the towne is much complayned of, in this respect: I priae god yt be not too true. I priae you (Sir) to pardon my boldnes; for I wish well to the towne, as yt is my Duetye, and I will be ready (god willing) to doe any good for Leicester, that lyeth in my power; And therefore (good M^r Maior) lett me intreat your furtherance herein; that she maie have a reasonable price of yt, and shee shall instantly paie the money: An so etc. etc.

Rob: Woodforde.

Hall Papers V, No. 186. [June 2, 1612.] Extracts from letter to Commissioners for sale of town houses written by Robert Woodford.

[Asks that Mistres Parker may have the house for a reasonable price.]

It is much complayned of Leicester (and I am sorrie to heare yt) That in tyme past, They have suffered their best farmes and houses to passe from them easily, and one to favor another therein, and nowe the best things are thus gone, the poore must paye for yt, and they must to the racke. * * * Lett my father have the price of yt, and lett yt be reasonable, and lett not such presidents be showed amongst you That another man (through the greediness of his mynde) by over-bidding the markett, should be a meanes to cutt the poore tenants throate. If I were worthy to give you advise, such a man as maketh no conscience of takinge his neighbours house over his head, should be sure to goe without it; and god would then blesse you and the towne so much the better: What though the towne be growen in debt must ytt needs be reached out of the poorer sort of howses, (god forbidd). * * * And thus much I thought good to certifie you; Mistres Parker, yf she be put besides this reasonable request hath two or three great freinds in the Court and she purposeth to petition against the towne (if she be put to yt) And if she doe, I knowe it will doe the towne no good; for Leicester hath divers adversaries.

[There is another letter about this business, No. 200. June 6, 1612.]

CXXXI. *Common Hall*

Hall Book, p. 352. [July 17, 1612.] It is agreed to send to London to provide a faire standinge Cupp with a Cover, of Silver and Gilte, worth xxxli. or thereaboutes to geve to our most gracious Soveraigne Lord King James at his highnes Cominge to Leicester the xxvijth Day of August next cuminge And allso to have the Townes Greate Mase Amended and gilded And to have the Kinges Armes of new set upon the toppe of the said Mase.

It is allso agreed That Mr Maior Mr Robert Heyricke and Three Justices vizt Mr Andrewe, Mr Parker and Mr John Mabbes shall Taxe and assesse the xxiiij^{tie} at xxiiijli. and the Cominers in the Towne accordinge to theire abilities towards the buyinge the said Plate alteringe and amendinge the Mase and for fees which are to be geven to the Kinges Maiesties officers and other Charges then to be layd forth The xlviij^{tie} (amongste themselves) have agreed to geve xxiiijli. And theire Companie to be Taxed by Reignould Fawsitt William Vickers, Henry Pallmer, William Hunt Thomas Nurse, William Smyth, and John Willcox for and towards the buyinge the said plate.

Hall Book, p. 353. Common Hall. [July 27, 1612.] Item it is ordered that everie House houlder within this Borough of Leicester (haveinge notice geven unto him by the Alderman and Constable of the Warde) shall forthwith Cause his pavement before his street Doore to be paved so that the same be done and finished before the Comeing of the Kinges Maiestie to Leicester the eight and Twentyth of August next upon payne everie housekeeper makeing defaulte to forfeite fortie Shillings of Lawfull money of England.

CXXXII. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers V, No. 205. [July 17, 1612.] Mr Thomas Chettell is released of his laste taxacion for the payment of vjs. viijd. for and [towards the] payment of fortye pounds for the vizited peoples monye behinde unpaid in Mr Mabbs yeere.

* * *

And Lastlie it is agreed that Edmund Loe one of the Seriants att Mace for certain wronngs and I[njuries] done and committed against the Towne: and certen persons who complained against the said Loe [of whom the] greater nomber now assembled putt of and from the office of Seriant Att Mace, and thereupon his M[ace be taken] from him.

CXXXIII. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers V, No. 218. [July 27, 1612.] Item itt is further allso agreed that the xxiiij^{ti} suche as have ben Maiors shall provide themselves [with] Scarlett, with horsse and footeclothe to meeete and attend the King into Leicester u[pon pain] everye Man not performinge this order to forfitt xl*i*. And the rest of the xxiiij^{ti} to pr(ovide) [them]selves in Gownes Citizen fashion graded with square backs to bee likewise readye to a[ttend] A foote everye man makinge defawlte to forfitt the like somme of tenn pounds of lawful [money] And itt is further Agreed that the xlvij^{ti} shall provide themselves for the like attenda(nce) in faire black suits of Apparrell, black Gownes, and ruffe bands against the saide [Kings] comynge to Leicester, and everye parson make defaulte to profit v*li*.

CXXXIV. *Examination of a man before the Magistrates*

Hall Papers V, No. 213. [Aug. 2, 1612.] Edwarde Turner of Leicester yeoman craveth the good behaviour of Francis Tirringham of Leicester gentleman first for that he the said Francis this present daie in the tyme of devine service in the parishe church of S. Margarettis in Leicester aforesaid did not onlie thrust the saide Turner from his place where he was then sett in the seat of the said M^r Tirringham but allso twoe severall tymes with his heeles havinge spurres on stroake att the shins of the said Turner and drewe blude on him soe that he presently fledd from the seat where he was.

[Tirringham to appear at the next Quarter Sessions.]

CXXXV. *Letter from the Recorder about the King's Visit*

Hall Papers V, No. 216. [Aug. 9, 1612.] M^r Maior. Your selfe and your brethren as yt seemed to me weare desierous that some speach might be used to the Kinge and some weare of opinion yt your presents should not be delivered without ytt My selfe differinge in opinion in theis things tolde your Towne Clarke that yf you desire any suche thinge I had gone soe farre with M^r Wyncoll yt he woulde perfourme and prepare a speech for that purpose, whereto yf you have likeing I would wryte to him accordingly nowe perceyvinge your dislike you shallnot nead any further to thincke thereof nor he to trouble himself which you may be sure he wyll not doe without your intreaty

and allowance I had further speeche with your Towne Clarke to this effect That whereas your place to attende the Kings must be att the utmost bounds of your libertyes there to deliver uppe your mace unto him upon your knee yf ytt may be with Conveniency of the place and Company And then to receave the same againe of him yf his pleasure be to deliver the same unto you and so to carry yt nexte before him through the Towne unto my lords house. The place upon the bridge is soe strayte as ytt ys not meete there to stay the Kinge longer than the delivery of the mace. And soe to goe on before the King unles his pleasure be made knowne to the contrary And then as the King comes uppe by the schole somme of the Schollers to deliver a shorte speeche in latton conteigninge an acknowledgment with thancks of and for the many favors the corporacion hathe receaved from the Kinge and his progenitors And the prince And soe to proceede on to the Kings lodgings, in which your proceedinge you shall doe well to observe this Decency your brethren to goe nexte before you in their antequity two and two and nexte before them the xlviij^{ti} and before them the better sorte of the Commonalty such as can furnishe theimselfes fytt for yt purpose and soe to go on untill they come soe neare to my lords house that the company before foremost may be last and furthest from the how[se] devideed as that your selfe may attend before the Kinge carryenge your mace through the myeldest of theim which order may easily be observed yf they wylbe ruled. But I pray you lett all occasions of any grievance and complaynte be taken away and forborne that noe cause be gyven to trouble the Kinge with peticiones about any Town matters This present upon beinge observed may be sufficyent to excuse my presence with you which for somme particuler things concerninge myselfe I desire may be pardoned And soe I rest wyshinge and hopinge that all shalbe well.

CXXXVI. *The Bakers' Case*

[Dispute between Roger Hall and the Company of Bakers and W^m Beckitt, Anthony Brocksbye, John Cater, Thomas Pestell and Thomas Wright.

Hall Papers V, No. 129. [No date.] Ordered by Court of the Duchy Oct. 24, 1611 that Beckitt, Brocksbye, Cater, Pestell and Wright shall bake their bread and do their suit to his Majesty's Common Bakehouse. Spiced bread, cakes, buns and biscuits and other "unlawful" bread not to be baked except for burials and specia festivals. Defendants to pay costs.

Note added by John Freake Mayor. He has assessed the defendants for these costs and they refuse to pay, "but woulde answere the same by order of law." April 27, 1612.

Hall Papers V, No. 160. [April 27, 1612.] Letter from John Freak to Judge Parry giving an account of the dispute as above. Defendants refuse to obey order and are determined to try their case in the law courts.

Hall Papers V, No. 197. [June 28, 1612.] Letter from John Freak to Judge Parry. Wright has been arrested. He "gave fourth braveinge speeches" refused to submit to the order. He not only bakes 6d. and 8d. household loaves—contrary to the Assize of Bread—but has lately set up a common oven of his own.]

Hall Papers unbound, No. 96. [Aug. 1612.] George Langley of Leicester payneter Steyner: beinge demanded for his opynion and likinge of the breade vicz the vi penye loves of Howsholde breade which the said Thomas Wrighte doth usuallie bake and putto sale, Answereth and saith that in his iudgment for that tryall which hee hath had of the same breade: is assured that the saide Thomas Wrighte his sixe penye loves are more proffitabler unto the buyers: then the ij penye howsholde loves which the Bakers of Leicester doe usuallye bake and sell to the poore people.

William Newton of Leicester Ymbroderer beinge demanded for his opynion and likinge of the saide vi penye howsholde loves: saith hee is of the same mynde that George Langley is of. Thomas Davye of Leicester Curriar sayth it is true that the saide Langley and Newton have saide: for he hath had much triall thereof: and purposeth to have more: And allsoe divers poore people cam in to iustifie asmuch as the saide Langley Newton Davye had Doone.

Suche of the xxiiij^t as have now Appeyred this daie doe thincke the said Thomas Wrights six penie howsholde loves are more profitabler for the poore then the ij penye howsholde loves of the Bakers of the towne are or of late have beene And therefore agreed to signifie soe muche to M^r Recorder and send A copie of the peticion which Wright exhibited to the Kinge att his highnes beinge att Leicester this 18th of August 1612.

Hall Papers V, No. 221. [Aug. 20, 1612.] To the King his most excellent Mat^e. Pleaseth it your highnes That wheras Tho: Wright, Baker of the Burrough of Leicester for the relieff of the porer sort of all Artificers and others, and at their earnest Request, doth wekely bake Rye breade, of vjd. a loaf and doth sell the same to such as are not of habilitie to buy their Corne in the market yet now latelye [he is] Restrayned by the Bakers ther, the want therof the porer sort lament May it please your Mat^e that forasmuch as it is for the generall good and Releiff of the porer sort, that your highnes Tennants may continue the baking thereof as before And your suppliant as he is

bound will contynually pray unto God to preserve your Ma^{tie} in health and all happiness Long to Raigne over us.

[Note at foot of petition signed by Roger Wilbraham saying it is referred to the Mayor by the King.]

Hall Papers unbound, B No. 101. Meeting of the Twenty-four. [Oct. 28, 1612.] Att this meetinge nothinge agreed upon: And when the Bakers of the Borough of Leicester did offer the saide Thomas Wright that if hee woulde be contented to come and bee A Brother of theire Companie and Submitt him selfe to there orders and bake such kinds of Breade to sell as the Rest of there Occupacion nowe doe bake and sell, That then hee shoulde with all willingness bee entertayned, Amonnge them But the saide Wrighte then answered that hee woulde neyther submitt him selfe to there orders nor be restrayned from bakinge his Sixe penye howsholde loves Butt abide the order and censure of the lawe in that case made and provided.

[Hall Papers unbound, B No. 76. [Dec. 3, 1612.] Wright and Pestell committed to the Fleet for contempt of Court, Nov. 20, 1612.

Ordered on Nov. 25 that Wright might bake 6d. and 4d. loaves provided Assize of Weight was kept "as being more necessarie and profitabler for the buyers then breade of d. or ij*d.* the lofe as by the certificate of the Maior and Bretherne appeareth."

Wright and Pestell to be discharged. Wright not to pay 4*6/4* to plaintiffs, and Mayor and Brethren "shall take order in the cause as well for the bakinge of bread as for the said xlvijs. iiij*d.* and certifie the Court thereof."

Mayor and Twenty Four agree Jan. 8, 1612/13

(a) "that itt should be law full for all or any the Bakers of Leicester aforesaid to bake Breade of six penye loaves According to the true proportion or size of the same Loaves and non above"

(b) that Defendants may bake bread in their own houses weekly provided they do not use more than "halfe a stricke of wheate" for that purpose.

(c) to discharge Wright from payment of 4*6/4.*]

— Hall Papers unbound, B No. 66. [Jan. 22, 1612/13.] To the right honourable Sir Thomas Parrye knight. Accordinge to an order of this Courte made betweene the said parties the five and twentieth daie of November laste paste in the presence of the plaintiffs and defendants, and havinge heard the allegacions of both sides there beinge two things by the said order referred unto us to take order in vzt. the first for the bakeinge of bread the second for the coste of xlvijs. iiij*d.* for the first we doe conceave upon perusell of the statutes of 23^d Ed 3. cap 6 and 25 H. 8 cap 2 that by the first of the said statutes the Maior and Bayliffs of our Borowghe by the generall words of the same statute have the power and jurisdiccion expresselie over bakers and bakinge.

And that in the latter of the said Statutes where by Authoritie is given to the Lord Chancellor and others for the settinge prizes of victualls there is an excepcon of Borrowghes and the head officers of the same, and that the authoritie of the said statute should not extend to them, And we do find that the complaint of the plaintiffs was first grounded upon an ordinance made by vertue of that Statute wherein borrowghes are excepted, and accordinge to that excepcon this Courte hath refferred the same to us we therefore accordinge to our former certificate mencioned in the said order do thinke fitte that the bakers within our borrowghe Maie bake bread of vid. loafes keepinge the Assise and true proportion in the quantitie and goodnes as beinge a skantlinge fitter for the poore (where of we have good store,) And touchinge the said matter of Costs we thinke it verie reasonable that the said Thomas Wright should be thereof discharged as well for the reasons in the said orders mencioned as alsoe for that we do conceave under correacion of this honourable Courte that the originall complaint about this busines was a wrongfull vexacion because by both the said statutes the power and authoritie therein doth belonqe unto us and not to any other Courte or Jurisdiccion Thus with remembrance of our ever bounden duties wee humblie take our leaves And Allwayes rest.

Your Honours most humblie to command

Wm Morton Maior	James Ellice
Robert Heyricke	James Andrewe
Wm Norice	

Leicester this 22^{ti} of Januarie 1612.

To the Right Honourable Sir Thomas Parrey Knight Chancellor of his highnes Duchie of Lancaster and of his Maiestie most honourable privye Counsell Bee Theise.

CXXXVII. *Judges lodgings in Leicester*

Hall Papers unbound, B No. 59. [March 2, 1612/13.] Right Honourable. Our humble duties remembered etc. Maie it please your honour that whereas it pleased the Right Honourable our verie good Lords the Lord Diar, the Lord Anderson, Mr Justice Gawdie and others noble and worthie Judges (for the good of our poore Borough of Leicester) to take likeinge to there Lodginge and entertainement att the dwellinge howse of Mr John Stanford thelder standinge in the middle and harte of the said Borough to the greate ioye of all behoulders there untill the Assizes in Lent last past by reason of the late sicknes before that

in the same Borough the Honourable Judges were then intreated to remove the lodgings for there owne persons into the Newarke of Leicester scituate att the outmost side of the said Borough to the greate trouble of manie of theire Honourable attendants and greate losse to the In keepers victualers and tradesmen whose estates are much weakened by longe contynewance of the said sicknes within the same Borough In tender consideracion whereof maie itt please your good Honour att this our humble suite to accepte of the said howsse of Mr Stanfords And (God soe willinge) wee purpose to furnishe the same in the best manner we cann (and whatsoever shall be wantinge at your Honours comynge shalbe provided with all conveynient speede. This much wee have thought it our duties (if so it maie stande with your Honours good likeinge) levinge the premisses to your Honours good consideracion with our danielie prayors for your honours healtthe longe to contynew to the pleasure of Allmighty God with remembrance of our ever bounden Duties wee humblie take our leaves And allwaies rest.

Your Honours most humble to commande
W^m Morton Maior Robert Heyricke etc.

Leicester this seconde of March 1612.

[Hall Papers V, No. 149. March 10, 1611. Letter from Mayor to Sir Augustine Nicolls asking him to urge the Judges to stay in Leicester.]

CXXXVIII. *Dispute between Lord Gray and the Bakers*

Hall Papers, unbound, A No. 138. [Nov. 12, 1613.] Mr Maior you shall have your Do yf it be possible to kill one and I understand by one Edmund Loe one of your Seraintes that you Callinge before you the bakers of your towne and fyndinge their Assizes of their bread to be under the rate of the statute they answered and sajd in excuse of them selves that my Lord Graye did amerce them and made them paye it because they did not bake accordinge to thirteene to the dozen Thus much (I understandinge of it) (I thought good) to acquaint you withall assuringe you that for my selfe I never delt with them anie mony for my officers I thinke they would not take thirteene for fowerteene therefore I would intreat you to knowe of them where they were amerced and by whom, Thus prayinge god to blesse you in your good courses I rest ever

Your loveinge freind

Henry Graye

Bradgate this xijth of November 1613.

I praye you lett me be thus much beholdinge unto you to knowe the names of those bakers which mad this report of me.

CXXXIX. *W^m Ludlam's Will*

Hall Papers V, No. 151. [1612.] Minutes of Common Hall. Item it is Agreed that the Towne shall take and receive that hundredth marks which William Ludlam late of the Borough of Leicester Channdler deceased in his last will and testament did give and bequeath to his two children Thomas and Margarett and that the Maior Bayliffs and Burgesses of Leicester shall [make] use of the same C. marks from henceforth for tenn yeeres. And then they to repaire to the s[aid] Thomas and Margarett there executors or Assigns the some of Sixscore and thirteene pounnds Sixe s[hillings] and eighte pence And for the sure paiement thereof the Townes bonde to bee made to John Wilne, Nicholas Gillott, Roland Pewsey gentleman George Shitlewood Francis Churchman and Robert Ludlam for the use and behoofe of the saide twoe Children.

Itt is allso Agreed that the Towne shall this Somer nexte repaire S^t Sondayes bridge and [*illegible*] stone bridge att the lowe pasture gate in the Sowth feildes of Leicester aforesaide.

[Hall Papers V, No. 161, 162. Obligation concerning Ludlam's will which shows that W^m Ludlam left £66. 13s. 4d. to be lent to the town for 10 years and then paid back to his son and daughter Thomas and Margarett Ludlam.]

CXL. *Letter to Lord Huntingdon about Lenten Regulations*

Hall Papers, unbound, B No. 72. [Jan. 6, 1612/13.] Right Honorable My humble duties remembered. I receyved your Honours Letters in the behalfe of one Hugh Darker of Leicester Butcher to allowe him amongst those that kill flesh this Lent in Leicester Maie it please your Honour that ymmediateli after Michaelmas Last att the peticon of the fishmongers of our towne for manie reasons by them made knowne (for the good of the poorer sorte of people) I promised to give Lycense to noe man to kyll fleshe this Lent, And about A moneth past when the wholl Companie of the Butchers in Leicester did before me and certen of my Breatherne exhibit there ordinall made these petition and ernest intreatie that there might noe Butcher bee Lycensed to kill fleshe this lent alledginge manie good holesome reasons and especiallie for the good and better releife of the saide poore, both of towne and Countie against Easter nexte, which peticon beinge duly considered of weere graunted unto them, and hitherto I have been resolved to admitt noe man and am the willinger to performe the same for that Mr Recorder hath advised me to allow noe man this lent, Yett with your honours favour if I shall soe cause to graunte

Lycense I purpose (God soe willinge) to allowe the said Darker to kill fleshe accordinge to your Honours request Notwithstandinge the said Darker and others that have Aforetime beene Licensed never did anyone of them good either to mend there estate, or paie there debts But have done muche hurte in the Comon welthe.

This withe remembrance of my ever bounden Duties I humblie take my leave And allwaies rest.

Leicester this vith of Januarie 1612.

Your honours most humble to command
W^m Morton Maior.

CXLI. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers V, No. 203. [? 1612.] Itt is agreed that Mr Thomas Chettell shalbee sent for before Mr Maior. And to knowe if hee will from [tyme] to tyme hereafter paye all such Charges taxes and ympozsions as is or from henceforth shalbe [laid] uppon him with and amonngest the Compannye of the xxiiij^{ti} then he to enioye his place otherwise [illegible] praye his absence and to bee released of and from the saide Companye of the xxiiij^{ti} Itt is allso agreed that Mr Thomas Nixe shalbe sent for before M^r Maior and to have the like offer Mr Chettell had.

CXLII. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1611-12*

Other receipts—Freemen.

Item of John Payne Barber Sergion the seconde sonne of W^m Payne one of the Serjants att Mace to the Maior of Leicester for his freedom
vse

[Total sum of Chapmans Guilde or freemen made this year £59. 10.]

Other receipts As followeth.

Item receyved of Mr W^m Norice (one of the Aldermen of the Borough of Leicester) One annuytie or yeerelie rent yssuynge and goinge fourth of a close or pasture ground of his lyinge and beinge in the Abbye gate neire Leicester called the Abbye gate Close towards the maintennance of the heade ussher of the Grammer Schoole in Leicester for ever. *ijij*l*; vis. viiid.*

Item receyved in fines of the xxiiij and xlviii which made default att Common Halls for the appearances there this yeere. *xxvs.*

*Item receyved of the Company of the xxiiij^{ti} towards the defrayinge of certen charges within the Borough of Leicester against the comynge of our Soveraign lorde the Kinge and prince Henrye in there progresse to Leicester on Tuesday the xviiith daye of August 1612. xxiiij*li.**

*Item receyved of the Company of the xlviij^{ti} for and towards the defrayinge of the like charges against his highnes and the prynce comynge as appeyres by the bills of both companyes. xxiiij*li.**

Item receyved of Miss Margaret Haslerigge beinge her voluntarie guifte towards the defrayinge of the said charge the somme of xxs.

*Item receyved of the Comynors in the Borough towards the defrayinge of the said charges as appeyres by the Constables bills. xxv*li.* is. ixd.*

Item received of the Companies of the xxiiij^{ti} and xlviij^{ti} att twoe Severall tymes beinge taxed for ij severall players this yeere xxiijs. viijd.

Payments.

Item a chiefe rent for the Barbican in the Castle of Leicester per Annum xiid.

Item for the yeerlie rent of the peece of grounde called the Bare gardin xxd.

Guifts of wine etc.

Item the xxxth daye of Januarie given to two Grecian Marchants which had the Kings letters patents to gayther towards there losses. vs.

Item the xth daye of Aprill paide for a pottell of wyne given to Mr Saincte Savior Warden of the newe Hospitall in Leicester xxd.

Item the xxxth of August paid for a pottle of wyne given to the prebende of Saincte Margarettis after his sarmon there xxd.

[Payments to great persons. Sep. 12. Lady Dorothy Hastings. Sep. 22. W^m Morton, Archdeacon of Durham. Payments for Players. Queen's Players 40/- Lady Elizabeth's Players 40/-]

Charges in suite of law. Decision in favour of Leicester in the case of Borough v. Sharman.]

Reparacions etc.

*Item paide to W^m Sympson Carpenter for Tymber and workmanship to make a conveynient roome in the towne hall to lay upp the Town Records etc. etc. iiij*li.* iijs. vid.*

Charges the Towne was att in Repaire of the Common streetes and other things in and about the Towne against the Comynge of our Soveraign lorde the Kinge and the noble prince Henrye in theire progress to the Borough of Leicester the xviiith daie of August 1612.

Imprimis paide to many Laborers for digginge of Gravell att the

Abbye of Leicester, for many lods of stone boughte and paide to Masons and Laborers in pavinge of many places in the Northgate, Barehill Cross, Galtrye Gate and about the West Bridge as appeyres by the severall particulers in the bill. *vli. vs. iiijd.* etc. etc.

[Total £19. 14. 7½.]

Other charges against the comynge etc.

Item paide to Mr James Andrewe for a peece of Stiffe to make a Gowne to bee given to Mr Sanct Savuer his Man whoe was once appoynted to have made the Oracion to the Kinge and afterwards Mr Wyncoll undertooke the same who performed the same verye well which gowne was not accepted of. *xxxviiijs. iiijd.*

Item pd for black Staves for everye Constable to walk withall to be knowne by, and to bee readie to doe any service with the Kings Officers when they were Commanded. *ixs.*

Charges laide fourth for a present given to our Soveraign lorde the King and one other present given to the prince, and other charges the Towne was att against his Highnes comynge as followeth.

Item paide for a fayre silver and guilte cuppe with a cover wayinge threescore ounces and three quarters att vis. *xd.* the oz. whiche cuppe was by the Maior presented to the Kinge att his comynge in to the Borough of Leicester on tuesday the xviiijth of August 1612. *xxli. xvs. id.*

Item paide for one other fayre silver and gilte cuppe with a cover wayinge thirtie eight ounces and three quarters att vis. *xd.* the oz. which saide cuppe was then presented to the prince by Mr Maior. *xiiijli. iiijs. id.*

Item paide for gildinge the Greate Mace after *viid.* the oz. *xxiis.*

-Item then paide for gravinge and ynamylinge the heade of the saide Mace and settinge on the Kings Armes of newe upon the same *xxs.*

Fees given to the Kings officers.

Imprimis given to the Kings Maiesties Gentlemen Usshers *iiijli.*

[Long list. Total £34. 6. 0.]

Other charges the Towne was att and paide after the Kings going from Leicester.

[Goods taken and not paid for £2. 0. 10.]

Fees etc.

Item paide for sweepinge awaye the snowe in the Castle yarde when Mr Maior went to receyve othe there att Martlemas. iiijd.

Item pd for takinge downe and settinge up of the glasse in the towne hall att the sittinge of the Judges att Lent Assizes the weyther beinge hot ijd.

Item paide for a horse and carte to leade one Nicholas Okeley and William Cooke aboute the Towne xijd., and for cord to tye them to carte ijd. and for whippinge of them for steylinge wood 4d. xviiiid.

Item given to twoe Soldyars in our towne that were prest for Denmarke ijs. viijd.

Item paid to a Messenger sent to Northampton to Mr Francis Harvey nowe our Recorder for certen Rentalls to prove the vis. viiid. cheife out of Thromaston mylnes due and within the charge of the Chamberlains of Leicester ijs. vid.

Item given two poore men that came from Virginia by Mr Maiors appoyntment ijs.

Item paid for the Kings provizion of the Bysshoppes fee for ij yeares xixs. iiid.

Item paid for his horsshier and charges to Mr Recorders about the Kings commynge to Leicester and for Chamberlins Churchmans horsshier and charge to Northampton to understande howe the Kinge was there in his highnes progress entertayned and what fees his Majesties officers had. vijs. viid.

Item paide to the use and relieve of the vizited people in Leicester more than was receyved out of the towne and Countie of Leicester vili. viis. ixd.

Item given to John Byarley for wrytinge twoe peticions for the poore people in tholde hospitall exhibited by them to the Kings Majestie. ijs.

Item paid in discharge of a distress levyed upon the Constable of the Bysshoppes fee for makinge defaulte of his Appearance att Loughborowe the quarter sessions for the county beinge kept there xxs.

CXLIII. *New fairs at Ashby de la Zouche*

Hall Papers, unbound, B No. 50. [April 15, 1613.] Whereas wee the Inhabitants of the towne of Leicester Loughborowe Mountsorell Hinckley and Bosworth (beinge markitt townes within the County of Leicester) and adioyninge to the towne of Ashebye Delazouch which is also a Markitt towne in the said Countye of Leicester have beeene requested by them Inhabitinge in the said towne of Ashebye to certifie what damage or hurte itt maie bee to their faiors and Markitts that

twoe faiors more yeerelie beside theise twoe Antientlie helde theire shoulde bee kepte the Tuesdaie in Easter weeke, and the other upon the xxijth daie of September beinge the feast daie of St Mathewe for the ventinge of cattle and Comodyties vendible the furtherance of trade and Chapmandrye and furnishinge of other parts with Cattle and Comodities, Wee doe herebye certifie and Signifie that the increase of faiors theire as ys above specified will not bee anie waye preiudicall or hurtfull unto us in our Markitts or faiors but rather verie beneficall and Comodiousse by the increase of our trade and trafique and the greater and better vent of our wars comodities and Cattles Wittnesse our hands the fifteenth daie of Aprill in the yeere of our Lorde God 1613.

[Hall Papers, unbound, No. 49. Letter from Ashby acknowledging the receipt of this certificate.]

CXLIV. *Letter from Henry Gray*

Hall Papers, unbound, B No. 8. [Oct. 22, 1613.] Mr Maior I have sent unto you, as I have formerlie donne to your predecessors to intreat you that I may have your aide and furtherance in the same and the rather bicause your towne is so much relieved by the preservation of my woodes which yf I should be forced to Cutt them downe I thinke they would be the first which would fynd the want of them and I had rather Cutt them downe myselfe then have them spoyled by others to fill your markettes with settes, poles watalynges and such lyke as you may see by a booke which I have sent unto you of those which have formerlie beene taken in your markett therefore I would intreat you that yf I send my men unto you and fynd those which have beene formerlie punyshed that they may have punyshment which the Lawe Doth inflict uppon them and so no what doubtinge of your kindnes herein I rest ever

Your loveinge freind

Henrye Graye

Brodgate

22th of October 1613.

CXLV. *Letters relating to purchase of the Grange land*

Hall Papers, unbound, A No. 139. [Nov. 12, 1613.] I cannot out of the love I beare you but tell you my Conceipt heeringe the Graunges which you have in Lease are nowe upon Sale that yf you neglect the buying the inheritance of them I thinke it will much preiudice the Corporacion and state of your Towne therefore this opportunitie would not be neglected but a due and serious regard had thereof And althoough perhaps your stocke is not suche as to make this purchase without running into some debt you had better mitigate your expenses

and out of your parcimonie to recover it, rather then to wante this which in future time will continuallie advance the good of your Towne and ad verie much to your praise that the memorie of such a woorke shalbe lefte to be done by you the which the world cannot conceive is donne for any private end to yourselves but for the good of the publique wherein wee ought all moste to accomodate our Actions And soe leaving the consideracion thereof to your iudgments whoe know better what is fitt for you that doe and have exercised the government amongst you then I that am but a stander by though one amongst you in my affecions I reste Ashby this 12 of November 1613.

Your verie loveinge frend
Huntingdon.

Hall Papers, unbound, A No. 113. [Dec. 27, 1613.] Sir we understandinge the last terme that you weare willinge to sell the reversion of the Granges and of such other thinges as we have in lease from the late Queen Elizabeth for xlviij^{tie} yeares yet enduringe we did thereupon write up our letter unto our Attorney Mr Wadland willinge him to repaire unto you and to understand your lowest prycce of the same whoe after his cominge home certified us that you demanded 1000*li*. for the purchase thereof which somme we thincke is a greate deale more then it is worth or then any man will give for the same Notwithstandinge presuminge upon your favour herein and hopinge you wilbe entreated to deale more reasonablie with us have sent up our said Attorney and one other of our neighbours unto you earnestly desiringe you that you wilbe pleased to set us downe a more lower price of the same and to give us somme reasonable tyme for the payement of the money And there upon we have given warrant unto them to conclude with you for the purchase thereof we have also sent you a letter from our honorable good frend the Earle of Huntingdon to the same effecte whoe will accept of anye kindnes that you shall herein shewe unto us as done unto himself And soe dependinge upon your favour herein and prayinge god to send you and your lady a merry newe yeare we humblie take our leaves from our Guyldehall in Leicester this 27th of December 1613.

Your lovinge frends and tennants
 Thomas Manbie Maior Thomas Parker
 Robert Heyricke Wm Morton
 Wm Norrice James Andrewe
 James Ellice John Freake.

To the right worshippful our verie loving frende Sir Wm Smythe Knight att London Bee theise.

CXLVI. Letter from William Hericke

Hall Papers, unbound, No. 89. [Feb. 26, 1613/14.] Concerninge the Parlement and my advise unto you, that you woold choose for your burgess 2 of youre owne Towne resident and freemen ther, which I coold wish all Corporations to do, but if you will gowe forther then if I maye be so much beholdinge unto you as formerly I have beene to nominayte me for one, I will vowe unto you to geve as honest an I and an No for the good of your Towne and all Corporations as any man yow shale maike choyse of whatsoever and in my Judgment yow shale do well to maike choyce of M^r Harvy your Recorder if he desier it or will attendyt, for, surerly ye lawyers did much good in the howse ye last Parlement, Leicestersher gote as good an opinnyon in ye howse ye last Parlement by Sir W^m Skipwith and Sir Tho: Beaumont ye elder as anny shere or County in England and as well the did approve themselves ther to ye lickinge of the howse I wilbe no chardg unto you, but if in any other bissnes my service or purse may stand you in stead I wilbe redy to my power and so refer me to your sensevers, but rest your trew lovinge frend

W^m Hericke

My house in Greater Wood Street London the 26 Feb: 1613.

*CXLVII. Letter to Sir Thomas Parry, Chancellor of
Duchy of Lancaster*

Hall Papers, unbound, A No. 67. [1613-14.] Right honourable our most humble duties remembered we have alwayes beene bounden unto your honour for your many favours done unto us which makes us at this time to presume to trouble your honour with a late accedent befallen us. Att his Maiesties gratiouse presence with us at our towne of Leicester in August was twelvmoneth The Clarke of the marketts deputie for the verge one Morse [Moone] an Innkeeper in Holborne London and as it now appeareth unto us impanelled A Jurie of our towne and by his perswation and meanes or rather as we thincke of his owne authoritie caused our victelers butchers Chandlers bakers and others of our Borough using waights and measures to be amerced some xs. a peece some vjs. viijd. a peece, some vs. a peece in all to the some of one hundred marks or there abouts which he hath procured to be estreated and sent forthe under the proces of the greene waxe and fynes pro licencia Concordandi of the dutchie and by vertue of a Commission under the dutchie seale one Edward Hall beinge sent hether with the said Commission by vertue of a lease heretofore grannted unto Sir Roger Aston and the said Hall beinge named a Commissioner

therein hath taken distresses of some and offreth to take distresses of the residue for the Levyinge of the said amerciaments so sett and ymposed by the said Clarke of the markytt his deputie which manner of Leyvyng the saide amerciaments by an unknowne officer hath made a greate trouble in our towne (the same greevance hapeninge amongst the poorest of people which are Clamarous) for which cause we have sent to the said Hall to examine his auctority and upon vewe of his said Commission wee doe find that he hath A duplicate of a Commission bearinge date in June in the tenth yeere of his Maiesties raigne to Levy amerciaments grannted to Sir Roger Astons Patent the seale thereof being broken in the midest and setto againe with newe wax verie suspicous and thestreats being under the seale of thexchequer (and we haveinge formerlie A lease under the duchie seale of all fynes and amerciaments happenyng within our towne not yet expyred) beareinge date before Sir Roger Astons patent desired him that he would give respicie unto us till the terine to be advised of this busines but we could not prevaile with him, yet wee doe heare that he is ridden from us up to London agayne, for which cause we humblye sue unto your honor for your favour to our poore towne that your honour would be pleased to send for the saide Clarke of the Marketts deputie and the said Hall and to staie their proceedings herein till your honor have thexaminacion thereof and the rather that we are perswaded the busines and this oppression by the said Clarke of the Marketts deputie is fit to be examined in the Starr Chamber for we are fullie perswaded and assuredlie knowe, it is not his Maiesties pleasure that his poore subiects should be thus oppressed but that the Clarke of the markett for the verge should onely sett resonable prices of victuall during his Maiesties progress and not in this generall manner to amerce all sorts of people and to draw these amerciaments within a patent and to [prosecute] for thexecution thereof at his owne discretion and appoynment And thus fearinge least we have beene troublesome to your honor we take our leaves most humblye craveinge your honours aide and assistance herein And so rest your honours ever to be Commanded

To Manbie Maior	James Ellice
Robt. Heyricke	James Andrewe
W ^m Norice	Th Parker
W ^m Morton	W ^m Ive.

To the Right Honorable Sir Thomas Parry Knight Channcellor of his highness Duchie of Lancaster and of his Maiesties most honourable privye Counsell Bee theise.

CXLVIII. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1612-13*

[Receipts	£593.	12.	2 <i>½</i> .
Expenditure	£499.	9.	3.
Balance	94.	2.	1 <i>½</i> .]

Freemen.

Imprimis receyved of Robert Eyricke fellmonger thapprentice of John Eyricke felmonger for his freedom of the Marchants Guilde xs.

Item receyved of Stephen Fawsytt Sadler thapprentice of Gilberte Fawsitt sadler for his freedome of the Marchants Guilde in Leicester xs.

Receipts.

Item received of Richarde Awman Butcher for the pest howsse and gardin in his occupacion att will per annum vis. viijd.

Item receyved of the Companyes of the xxiiij*th* and xlviij*th* for A playe and for defaults att a Common Hall as appeyres by the bills xiiijs. xd.

Payments.

Item paide to Robert Pawley of Croson for the rent of the gardin or orcharde neire the west gate nowe called the pest howse per annum xxs.

Guifts of Wyne etc.

Item the xxvj*th* daye of October given to the Queenes players xls.

Item paide for a gallon of Sacke and a gallon of Clarett wyne and one pounde of Suger given to the Knights and Gentlemen att the horsse runnyng for the Golden Snaffle viijs. iiijd.

[Payment to Players. Queen's Players 40/- and 20/-.]

Reparacions.

Item paide for a locke and key for the dungeon dore. xvid.

Item given to the ringers for ringinge att the comynge of the lord Candishe to the Angell in Leicester xiid.

Item given to Mr John Pilkington under sheyriffe for the Countie of Leicester for his fee to peruse our Charters with allowance thereof under his hande beawse hee shall not ympañell any parson or parsons dwellinge in Leicester or the Suburbs thereof to appeyre at the Castell iijs. iiijd.

Item paide to the Kings Maiestie for aide to marrye the ladie Elizabeth his highnes eldest doughter as the lawes of this realme require oute of all the landes and tenementes of the Maior Bayllifes and burgesses of Leicester bothe fee simple and fee farm vili.

Item given to a poore man that went aboute with the prisoners in the towne for vi weekes and three daies togeither almes. vis. vid.

Item paid for provizion for the Kinges howsshold due out of the said fee xis.

Item paid more for provizion for the Kinges poultry there iijs.

CXLIX. *Letter to Parliamentary Burgesses*

Hall Papers, unbound, A No. 57. [May 9, 1614.] Right Worshipfull for soe much as you have undertaken the place of A Burgess for our borrough of Leicester wee beseech you that as a feeleinge member thereof you will vowchsafe to understand and to take notice of the presente miserie and futer danger both of ours and other Corporacions by meanes of depopulation and decay of Tyllage and for the better suppressinge of the brewinge of stronge Ale and beare as maye appeyre unto you by the reasons here inclosed And that you will indeavor by any good meanes you may to procure at this parliament that some good and effectual remedie may be provided for the same; And the rather because the saide Evills are likelie still to increase more and more without end, if they be not stopped by some new statutes nowe to be made And soe for any other good mocion which shalbee made in the parliament howse for good of the Church Commonwealth and Corporacions wee ernestlie desire you to shewe yourselves forwarde to the effectinge thereof Thus not doubtinge of your care for the good of our and other poore Corporacions wee comend you to the proteccion of thallmighty and allwayes rest.

Your Worships verie lovinge frends

Tho : Manbie Maior

Will : Morton

Robt. Heyricke

James Andrewe

W^m Norice

Tho. Parker.

To the Right Worshippfull Sir Henrie Riche and Sir Francis Leighe knights Att Sir Walter Cope knight his howse in the Strand London Bee theise.

CL. *Papers relating to the King's visit to Leicester*

Hall Papers, unbound, B No. 116. [June 27, 1614.] Right Honourable Whereas his Maiesties Jests for his progresse is appoyned through the Borough of Leicester whereupon your Honour is to be Certified of the state of the same Borough Concerninge Any Contagious sicknes there, Theise are therefore to signifie unto your good Lordship that the saide Borough of Leicester is (thanks be to God) free and cleare from anye such danngerous deseases, And that I doubt not but his Highnes may be verye Conveynyentlie lodged in the same Borough and alsoe his Maiesties trayne there, And thus with remembrance of my ever bounden Dutie I humblie take my leave and allwaies rest.

Your Honours to bee commaunded

Thomas Manbie Maior.

To the right Honorable Thomas Earle of Suffolke Bee theise.

[Hall Papers, unbound, B No. 113. (a) Gists of his Majesty's progress. (b) Order to enquire into health of town. (c) Order to proclaim "rate cease and taxe" all kinds of food.]

Hall Papers, unbound, B No. 117. [Aug. 18, 1614.] Kings visit. Thursdaie the xvijth daye of August 1614 our most Gracious Soveraigne the Kinge came in his progresse this nighte to Leicester to the Earle of Huntingdon his Honours howse and there laie Mr Maior and his Bretherne and the xlviij^{ti} Attended the Kinge att the saide Earles howse and there receyved his highnes where Mr John Wyncall made A speech in Latten unto his Maiestie att the said Courte gates where the kinge satt in his Coche harde the same verie pleasinglie and his highnes did verie much Comende the same speeche and gave Mr Wyncall his hande to kisse and from the Courte gates Mr Maior carried the mace before the Kinge up into the presence Chamber.

CLI. *Letter from Edmund Lowe*

Hall Papers, unbound, A No. 28. [July 13, 1614.] All happines in Christ Jesue be multiplied Right Worshipfull Mr Maior with the residue of your Brethren theis are to certifie you that at the ernest request of the right honourable the Earle of Huntington I have as far as in me layeth resigned my place unto Thomas Clarke for whome the

Earle is willing to doe him good And for him he hath written unto your Worshipp and your Brethren agayne perswading himselfe so small a request that you will not deny him And for myselfe his honor hath procured me that favour with the Deane of Westminster and others which will benefit me more than that place can doe Thus Humbly taking my leave of your Worshipp with the residue of your Brethren and all other my good frendes I committ you to the protection of Almighty God London this 13th day of July 1614.

Yours to Command
Edmund Lowe.

[He had been dismissed from his office, cf. Hall Papers V, No. 205. July 17, 1612 "for certen wronges and i[njuries] done and committed against the Towne and certen persons whoe complayned against the said Loe."]

CLII. *Papers relating to claim of toll at Gainsborough*

Hall Papers, unbound, A No. 20. [July 16, 1614.] [*Much damaged copy*] Right worshipful. Whereas our lovinge neighbours John Blount and [Thomas Hunt] have of late made there repaire to the towne of Hull and there bought certen Corn and other commodities, and in there waie homewarde att your towne of Gaynesborowe have beene staid for paiement of toll and forced to leave there Corne in lue of toll and there monye for passage and other Custome which you challenge Theise are therefore to signifie unto you that his Maiesties Borough of Leicester (is one of the most auncient Corporacions within his highnes domynions scituate in the verie midle and harte of his Maiesties Realme of Englannde And hath tyme out of mynde been free from paiement of all manner of toll stallage and other like custome throughe out the wholl Realme of England Aswell by Sea as by lande) As by the grannts and Charters of his highnes most noble progenitors made and grannted to the Maior and Burgessses and all other free inhabitants within the saide Borough of Leicester to passe and goe toll free with there things and Marchanndizes more att large [it may] Appeyre yett notwithstandinge the Shewinge of A coppie of our said Charters [*illegible*] have by your officers not onlie taken from the said John Blount and [Thomas Hunt] certen quantities of Corne in lue of toll but allsoe monye for and [*illegible*] or other Custome which you suppose to bee due by them the takinge [*illegible*] and monye we doe assure ourselves you have no could or grannt [*illegible*] same of right from them. And therefore wee intreate you as [*illegible*] you woulde be pleased to cause your officers to redelyver to the said John [Blount]

and Thomas Hunt or there Servants all the said Corne and monye allreadie [*illegible*] and to permitt and suffer them and all other thinhabitants of Leicester to frelie [pass] by you with these merchandizies shewinge these Charters otherwise you will give us and our wholl Corporacion just cause to comence suite in lawe against the takers of the saide toll come to maineteyne the Anncient priviledge and free-domes of our Borough * * * And in soe doinge shall find us readie to requite you in what wee maie And allwaies rest.

Leicester this xvijth of Julie 1614.

To the Right Worshipful Sir W^m Hickman att Gaynesborowe Bee theise.

Hall Papers, unbound, A No. 26. [Dec. 12, Jac. I. 1614.] (Reply of Sir W^m Hickman.)¹ Your letter chargeth me to have by my Officers forced some of your townsmen in their passage from Hull towards Leicester to pay Tolls Corne and money for passage or other custome there att Gainsborowe for corne and other commodityes which they brought from Hull by this Towne of Gainsborowe. * * * For answer whereto I do freely acknowledge your Borough to be as you say very anntient and that itt being scituate in ye very midle and heart of this kingdom hath bin of anntient tyme and from tyme to tyme worthily esteemed by his Maiesties most Noble progenitors and predecessors Insomuch as I make noe question but that they have graciously bestowed many Princely guifts upon ye same among which I doubt nott but that they have by anntient Charters expressed their favour and bounty towards itt in grantring sundry privilidges and immunitiess to ye Maior Burgesses and all other free inhabitants thereof And I doe nott thinke to ye contrary but that a freedome from tallages, stallage and such like custome is thereby grannted you of which freedome I doubt nott butt that you may take benefitt in all Cities, Boroughs and places which were any parcell of ye demeane or possessions of ye Crowne of England wherein noe subiect was estated att ye time of such grants.

Butt notwithstanding all this lett me (in freindly manner aswell for your owne good as for mine) move you (before you commence suit against my Officers) to returne to further consultacion about this matter and demaine of your Counsell whether ye words in your Charter which mencion your freedome from tolle and suchlike duties in all places throughout ye Realme of England shall be construed in law to give you freedome in all places of England, whereof ye Regalty and Soveraignty then was or now is in ye Crowne, or onely in such places

whereof ye king that grannted you that freedome was then owner and possessor in demeane and had in himself aswell ye estate as ye Soveraignty: for although your freedome be grannted by words very generall and large in your charters, yett I have all wayes helde my selfe satisfied by ye advise of my Counsell that ye intent of those words must by construccion of lawe be restrayned onely to such places wherein his Maiestie alone and noe subiect was estated att ye time of such grannt which places and none other (as my Counsell informeth me) the Kings Maiestie hath power in lawe to bynd and charge to be lyable to such grannts Now then I knowinge my Mannor to be a place wherein ye Crowne had noe estate nor interest (other then Regall Soveraignty) att and long before ye time of grannting your Charter (though I deny itt not to be anntient) I doe know noe reason why I should not take of you those duties which both I and my predecessors have time out of mind taken of all passengers notwithstanding any such Charter as you pretend. * * *

Thus have I (as I conceive) fully answered your letter and done my best endeavour to satisfie you as touching my right to those duties which I claime, knowing you to bee awise and well advised society, who will nott be drawne to vexatious suits by ye malitious or sinister exasperacions of anie, but will (before you commence any suit) take deleberate advice of learned Counsell that will judicially apprehend ye question and faithfully deliver their opinions therein. By whose opinion if you bee informed that ye maine poynt and issue of our differance be whether this my Mannor were parcell of ye Demeanes of ye Crowne at ye tyme of your freedome grannted or nott, then if you will be pleased to signifie as much unto me I shall (I doubt nott) sufficiently manifest ye negative unto you, with [illegible] But if your Counsell doe nott hould that poynt materiall then will there be noe reconcilement of us but by tryall of lawe. * * * In ye meane tyme lett me request you to give order to your inhabitants to pay my accustomed rights till you be freed by iudgment of law from payment thereof And soe wishing well to your Corporacion I rest.

CLIII. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers, unbound, A No. 2. [St. Math. Day, 1614.] Burgus Leic.
 Saincte Mathaoes daie Anno regni Jacobi nunc Anglie Duodecimo et
 Scotie Quadragesimo octavo 1614.

24

Thomas Manbie Maior 2*li.*
 Francis Harvey. Recordator.
 Robertus Heyricke 40*s.*
 Willhelmus Norrice.
 Willhelmus Morton *vli.*
 Jacobus Ellice *xls.*
 Thomas Nixe *xs.*
 Edwardus Newcombe *xs.*
 Robertus Gillott *xs.*
 Hugo Hunter *xs.*
 Thomas Chettell.
 Jacobus Andrewe *xls.*
 Thomas Parker *xxs.*

48th

Robertus Eyricke *xs.* }
 Thomas Brooks *xxs.* } camerarii
 Reginaldus Fawsitt *vjs.* viij*d.*
 Anthonius Webster.
 Thomas Stanforde *xs.*
 Willhelmus Vickars *xs.*
 Willhelmus Huntt *xs.*
 Henricus Pallmar *xxs.*
 Thomas Walker.
 Jacobus Ellice *xxs.*
 Robertus Johnson.
 Johannes Blount *xxs.*
 Johannes Bugge *viijs.*
 Willhelmus Thorpe *vs.*
 Thomas Nurce *xs.*
 Georgius Howett *vs.*
 Thomas Pestell.
 Johannes Wilde *vs.*
 Gilbertus Fawsitt *xs.*
 Franciscus Churchman *x.*
 Thomas Huntt *xs.*
 Johannes Nurce *xiijs.* iiiij*d.*
 Willhelmus Billers *xs.*
 Thomas Winbie *viijs.*

24

Johannes Mabbs.
 Johannes Freake *xxs.*
 Johannes Willne *xs.*
 Johannes Bonnett *xiijs.* iiij*d.*
 Robertus Atton *vjs.* viij*d.*
 Willhelmus Ive *xxvjs.* viij*d.*
 Thomas Eyricke *xs.*
 Johannes Heyricke *xxs.*
 Nicolas Gillott *xiijs.* iiij*d.*
 Johannes Pare *xiijs.* iiij*d.*
 Willhelmus Ludlam *xiijs.* iiij*d.*
 Johannes Hynde.

48th

Thomas Smyth *xs.*
 Johannes Mitchell *xs.*
 Willhelmus Davie *xs.*
 Johannes Tatam *vjs.* viij*d.*
 Thomas Mawson *vs.*
 Robertus Stanforde *vs.*
 Willhelmus Marshall *vjs.* viij*d.*
 Rogerus Cotes *vjs.* viij*d.*
 Radolphus Tompson *vjs.*
 Julius Billers *vjs.* viij*d.*
 Ricardus Annables *vs.*
 Ricardus Beeke *viijs.*
 Willhelmus Chamberlin *xs.*
 Johannes Norrice senior *xs.*
 Johannes Wilcocks *vs.*
 Edwardus Knighte *vs.*
 Paulus Abney *vjs.* viij*d.*
 Hugo Watts *xs.*
 Ricardus Chapman *xs.*
 Thomas Tompson *vs.*
 Johannes Brewyn *vjs.* viij*d.*
 Johannes Norrice Junior *xs.*
 Daniel Marfin *xs.*
 Samuell [illegible] Webster *vs.*

At this Common Hall the Letters from the Lords of his Maiesties most honorable privie Councell was openlie redd And all the severall parsons are verie willinge to give to his Maiestie for A gratuytie those severall somes sett at thende of there names accordinge to the last mocion which they have certenlie sett downe upon the last alteracion and yf neede require they will give more as they find the forwardnes of the Countrie.

Item it is ordered that Mr Thomas Chettell shall before Michaelmas daye nexte comynge paye to the Chamberlins of Leicester All his last taxe of $xxii$ And all his fines or Defawltis for this yeere paste And to weare his Scarlett Gowne from henceforthe on the dayes appoynted, otherwise in Defawlte of anye of them hee the said Mr Chettell to stand from henceforth released and discharged of and from the Companie of the $xxiiij^t$ otherwise called the Maiors Breetherne.

And it is aliso ordered and agreed that when anye parson or parsons beinge of the Companies of the $xxiiij^{th}$ and $xlvij^{th}$ within the said Borough shall wilfullie refuse to paie anye taxes or Leyes which shalbee hadd or made at any Common Hall within the same Borough That then they and everie of them to bee distrayned of there goods for non payment and not to bee Committed to warde or prison for anye such refusall And this order to stande in force from henceforth.

This wholl hall and Mr Freake doe referr themselves to Mr Recorder to end the Controversie betweene the Towne and him for the monie which the Awditors doe challenge in the said Mr Freaks Chamberlins Accompte, And Mr Freake doth promise to paye soe much monye as Mr Recorder shall sett downe or awarde him to paie the Towne upon evidence of both sides to bee dewe.

CLIV. *Petition of W^m Harrie*

Hall Papers, unbound, A No. 22. [No date.] To the righte worshipful Mr Maior and other his brethren be contynuall healthe and endlesse felicitie.

Maie it please your worships to understande whereas in Mr Freake his Meraltie your humble Peticyoner William Harrie had given him by Mr Wylne baylie of the lybertie of the burrough of Leicester the Gaylorshippe Sergiants office in regarde at your motions he was content to leave the saide offices your predecessors then Maior and other his assocyates promysed your dutifull Suppliant a Seriantshippe when it happened and thereupon caused the same soe to be recorded In Consideration whereof the premyses tenderly consydered it maie

stande with your worshipps good lykinge to grannte him the place now voyde and fallne to your dysposinge for his better mayntenanne and bringinge upp his wyef and fyve small children as my bounden dutie is I shall daylie praye for your muche increase of worshipp and longe contynuannce in safetie.

CLV. Letter from John Gibb

Hall Papers, unbound, A No. 132. [1613-14.] To the Right Worshipful Mr Maior and the Rest of your Brethren my commendacions remembered unto you all. The Chancellors servants tell me that their master thinketh much that you sent not an answere about the letter he sent last to you for that the business had beane followed then it had beane better by forty pownds then it will be now theirfore I pray you that you dooe think good in it that you would send up some other man with spead for I a turned to a New Attorney in the Dutchory Court the which the Chancellor could have done of himselfe but for the Complaynt that Mr Sharmanson made it had gone forward for I have spent my time in waytinge of the lawyeres and was glad to see their men before I could speake with their Master theirfore I comyt my Answere to you for I am Not able to stay here any longer to spend my owne and other poor mens goods for Certaynly if it go back the Scotchmen hath begd the leads of the house no more to you at this time but desireinge a speady Answere from you.

Your poore frend to Command
John Gibb.

CLVI. Letters relating to Parliamentary election

- Hall Papers, unbound, A No. 78. [1614?] Sir I think myself much beholding to you and to the rest of your bretherne for your kind offer and respect towards me to make choise of me for one of your Burgesses, but my ernest occations are such that I do earnestly entreat your favours to spare me for that place hopinge you shalbe furnished with [fit] persons by the means of your honourable friends whose letters I have seene to that purpose, The necessity of giving them satisfaction at this tyme is such that in my opynion you are to have a dew consideracion in the procedinge them, And first you may please to send to the Right Honorable therle of Huntingdon shewinge him my desire to be spared and withall to send him Sir Thomas Parryes letter whereby

his lordshipp cannot conveniently have the choise of both places and to desire his honors Councell and advise in your answeare to Sir Thomas Parry, whos advise I know wilbe both honorable, and for your good and with respect to that honorable person considering the cause you are at this tyme to give Sir Thomas dew respect for your present occations although I know (as you have reason) to honor him for your many favours you have receaved from him. And for Sir Thomas Parry I should wish you to send a fittinge messenger to him and by your letters to signifie your desires to satisfie his request in regard of the many honorable favours you have receaved from him yet to desire to know the man and to signifie that he must be a freeman of your towne and that you relye uppon his honors Commendacion for his integryty sufficiency and fitnes for the place, of theis things I know I need not put you in mynd so that you are of judgment and wisdom yet I pray you accept my love and advise in good parte * * *

Your worshipes to Command with my
best love and service

Harvey

Hall Papers, unbound, A No. 74. [1614?] Right Honorable. Our humble duties remembred: wee have received your honors Letters of the xxith of Februarie last which did not come to our hands till the vth of this instant March wherein your honor hath recomend unto us M^r Henrie Felton esquire for one of our Burgesses for the nexte Parlyament as a verie fitt man for the place of your honors owne knowledge. And therefore wee make noe doubt thereof. But towchinge your honors predecessors in your place mencioned in your honors Letters Maie itt please you to bee informed that in truth they have neyther allwaies written unto us about the Choyce of our Burgesses neyther allwaies prevayled when they did wryte. And that sometymes we have chosen both our Burgesses out of our owne selves and dwellinge in our owne towne Howe be itt att this tyme upon due Consideracion had wee cannot but acknowledge that our wholle Corporacion have received soe manie favors from your honors hands as deserve to prevayle with us in A greater request. And therefore withall willingness wee purpose (by the leave of God) To make choyce of him whom your honor hath recomend unto us not Doubtinge of his integritie Sufficiencye and fitness for the place to the glorie of God and the good of the Common Wealth and namelie of incorporacion, which above other places are att this tyme verie muche distressed by the former decayes of tillage and depopulacions and doe see iust cause to feare a Daielie increase

of there miserie And therefore our desire is that withall Conveynient speede the saide M^r Felton maie fourthwith make his Repaire to Leicester there to take the oath of A free Burgesse of our Towne before wee proceede to our election as others heretofore have done in the like case. That soe he maie bee A free Burgesse accordinge to the Statute in that case made and provided Thus requestinge the Cottynuance of your honors Lawfull favor towards us and our poore Corporacion wee humblie take our leave and all waies rest.

Your honors in all Dutie to be comanded

Thomas Manbie Maior	James Andrewe
Robert Heyricke	Thomas Parker
W ^m Norice	John Freake
W ^m Morton	W ^m Ive.

To the Right Honorable Sir Thomas Parry Knight Chauncellor of his highnes Duchie of Lancaster and of his Maiesties most honorable Privye Counsell Bee these.

CLVII. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1613-14*

Receipts.

Monye receyved this yeere for lande soulde by the towne in fee farm Assfolloweth

[Total £387. 14. 4.]

[*Other Receipts.* This includes a fine of £30 from M^r Henrie Palmer for renewing lease of Newarke Grange and John Sharman for fee simple of frith closes. Also the following loans, £100 borrowed from M^r Smith of London, £100 from John Heyricke, and £200 from Gilbert Fawsitt.]

- *Item* receyved which was collected by the Constables of the aide Monye given to the Ladie Elizabeth the Kinges eldest daughter. xlijs. xd.

Item receyved of the Companye of the xxiiij*t*i towards the payment of five hundred Markes beinge the first payment for the purchase of the Newarke Graunge and lands thereunto belonginge xxili.

Item receyved of the Companye of the xlviij*t*i towards the saide first payment for the purchase of the saide Graunge xxili. xv*s*.

Item receyved of Mr Thomas Sacheverell our towne preacher which voluntarilie hee gave the towne Towardss the said payments xxs.

Payments. Guifts of wyne etc.

Item paide for a quart of clarett and a pynt of Sacke given to Mr Clarke Master of Mr William Wigstons hospitall in Leicester xiiijd.

Item the xviith of Aprill paid for a pottell of Clarett wyne A quarte of Sacke and a pounde of suger given to Sir William Heyricke Knight the towne of Leicesters verie good·frende iijs. viijd.

Item given to a messenger that brought letters from the lords of his Maiesties honorable Counsell for a gratuytie to his highnes iijs. iiijd.

Item paide for wyne and suger given to the lorde Bysshoppe of Lincolne att his honors beinge at Leicester the xvij daie of August when the Kinges Maiestie came to Leicester iiijs. viijd.

[Payments to great persons April 28. Lord Cavendish Sir George Parkins.

Payments to Players. The Lady Elizabeth's 40/-; the Queen's 40/-; Lord "Awbenyees's."

Charges in suits of law £20. 5. 2.

Charges re "incorporating of thospitall in the Newarke" £42. 11. 8.]

Imprimis paid to John Gibb one of the Almesmen and a Scotsman for and towards his charge to London twoe severall tymes to peticion the Kinge to incorporate the saide howse and make it capeable to receive lands.

Item paide for the charge of Roger Hawfelde beinge sent to London about the said hospitall (when the saide Gibbs and Sharman had plaide faulchoode in fellowshippe with the Towne to Mr Chauncellor of the Dutchie and others) As appeyres by A bill of the particulers iiijli. xvs. vijd.

Item paide for the charges of Mr Sacheverell beinge intreated to London about the saide Hospitall busines whoe tooke greate paynes there with Sir William Heyricke knight the Townes good freind in this busines when Mr Sharman had made him selfe stronge against the Towne.

Item in Trynitie terme (1614) paide to Mr George Wadlande which hee had laide fourth for and about the suite of the said Hospitall and for vli laid out by him to the saide John Gibb and to Mr Chauncellors man of the Duchie [illegible] vjli. xixs. viijd.

Reparacions.

Item paid for the repaire of Allmeshowses neire the Easte gate vs.

Reparacions in and aboute the makinge of a howsse of Correction for the borough of Leicester according to the Statute in that case made and provided As followeth vicz of that part of Sancte Johanes as was late in thoccupacion of one George Downes weyver and nowe in

thoccupacion of Henrie Watts weyver Master of the said howse of Collection [sic].

Item paide for twoe chaynes for the Apes Cloges of the saide howse xvid.

Charges this yeere the towne was att towards the repayre of Brawnston gate Bridge standinge in the parishe of Sancte Marie neire the Borough of Leicester in the countie of Leicester which was the Townes voluntarie offer and paid as followeth—viz.

Summa. xvli. xviijs.

Fees and charges paide to the Kinges Maiesties officers att his highnes commynge to Leicester in progresse upon Thursdaie the xviiith daie of August Anno Domini 1614. This beinge the seconde tyme of his Maiestes beinge att Leicester. Asfolloweth viz.

Summa. xxili. xiiijjs.

Att Christmas in Anno Domini 1613. The towne purchased the Newarke Grannge in Leicester with all lands and tenementes mylnes and meadowes thereunto belonginge with there appurtenances of the worshippful Sir William Smyth Knight for the some of one thowsand poundes of lawfull monye of Englannde to bee paide Asfolloweth : vizc. Five hundred marks thereof upon the sixth daie of Februarie then next following. Other five hundred markes thereof upon the sixth daie of August then next followinge. And other fyve hundred markes rest and residue of the saide some of one thousand poundes upon the sixth daie of Februarie in Anno Domino 1614 and of the saide thowsande pounds thus much paide asfolloweth vizc.

^c Somma. viij iiiij*l*i.

Fees Wages etc.

Item paide to Barnabas Turvile for mendinge the Muzicions silver collers and Scutchens that wanted certen peeces of silver vs.

Item paide for a horsse and cart three holberde men and oneother man to ringe the bell when John Camden and his wentch and allso Robert Webster were by order of the sessions carted aboute the towne iijs. vid.

Item paide to William Noone Baker for his travell and charge to the towne of Northampton after the fellowe that left the wedge of golde att Leicester iijs. vid.

Item paid to nyne laborers for gettinge gravell against the Kinges commynge vis.

Item paide more to xviii laborers for diginge gravell for the wayes xijs.

Item paide more for cuttyng bowes in the forest to bee sett att the courte gates against his Maiestes commynge to the towne xvid.

Item paide more to him [Robert Eyricke] for his charge to Nottingham to see howe the Maior and Corporacion there receyved the Kinge in his highnes progresse thither. vs. vid.

[Receipts	£1409.	17.	4.
Payments	£1394.	12.	0.
Balance	£	15.	5. 4.]

CLVIII. *Meeting of Mayor and Justices*

Hall Papers VI, No. 10. [Nov. 22, 1615.] This present daie all the Maulsters in Leicester are now suppressed from buyinge of Barley to convert into Mault from henceforth. And all such Barley as they shall hereafter make into Mault, and all such Mault as they nowe have. It is now ordered that they shall sell the Mault in the open Markitt in Leicester and not ells where (Unles to the Comon Brewers and Victualers in Leicester) As they will avoyde the penaltie of the lawe in that case made and provided.

CLIX. *Taxation for Musters*

Hall Papers VI, No. 16. [Nov. 28, 1615.] A meetinge of Mr W^m Ive Maior, Mr W^m Morton and Mr John Bonnett twoe of his Maiesties Justices of Peace within the said Burgh to Sesse the Companye of the xxiiij^{ti} xlviij^{ti} and the Commyners for the payment of the charges of the Musteringe and trayninge of the xliij^{ti} Soldyers in October last past vicz.

The Companye of the xxiiij^{ti} att vjs. viijd. a peece viij*li*.

The xlviij^{ti} att iijs. iiijd. a peece viij*li*.

Mr Robert Gillotts warde xxxiijs. viijd.

The Bysshoppes fee xxvij*s*.

Mr W^m Morton his warde xxxiijs.

Mr James Andrewe his warde xxxjs. ijd.

Mr Thomas Parkers warde xxiijs.

Mr W^m Norice warde xls.

Mr Hugh Hunters warde xxviijs. viijd.

Mr John Freakes warde xxxx. iiijd.

Mr Robert Attons warde xxjs. xd.

Mr James Ellices warde xxjs. xd.

Mr John Hinde his warde xxvjs. viijd.

15/19/2

Summa total xxxx*li*. xxs. ijd.

CLX. "Remembrances to Mr Recorder"

Hall Papers VI, No. 20. [Dec. 2, 1615.] What course to take with the Maulsters in Leicester that stand suppressed from buying of Barley to convert into Mault, and yett theire Wyves and Servants buy Barley weekelye to convert?

Their wyves and servants buyinge is the buyinge of the Maulster himself and the Master upon conviction to be counted as by the St of 39 Eliz.

F. Harvey.

What course to take with those Maulsters which have greate store of tythe barley and make it into Mault, and will not bringe the saide Mault to the Corne Wall on the Markitt Daie but sell it to trawnters and Salters att there howsses?

Mr Maior and the Justices may take order that they shall bring in a quantity into the markett weekeley to supply the markett if they refuse this order being made by a by law the penalty thereof is to be inflicted other law I know non.

F. Harvey.

CLXI. *Defiance of Mayor's authority*

Hall Papers VI, No. 29. [Dec. 16, 1615.] [Man examined concerning the theft of a purse and complains of the bad company kept at a certain House.] Thereupon Mr Maior went thither, attended with his Clarke and Macebearer: and in the waye goinge to Boones: mett with Thomas Buckston and requested him to attende him into the said Boones howse: he answered and swore by God hee coulde not tent hee must goe speake with Thomas Allsopp. Then Mr Maior in his Maties name commanded him to goe with him Whoe went with much unwillingness: In Boones howse were found 4 lewde and Idle persons att gamnyng and looking on: whoe Mr Maior committed to warde and to be garded thither by the said Buckston; George Sutton and Edward fone. Buckston answered and swore by God he woulde not medle nor take them towards But stooode and brabled with Mr Maior and said he was as good as himselfe and kept as good howse as hee with claping his hatt on his head in a hie contempt sayinge he scornde to be att his commande and in that tyme all the parties that were committed fledd there wayes. Thereupon Mr Maior (for the said Buckstons contempte) committed him to warde [*illegible*] But in noe sorte Buckston hee would obey

Mr Maiors command [*illegible*] butt went to his owne house in spite of all men. Ymediatele after Mr Maior sent his Macebearer for Buckston to command him upon his allegiannce to attend him presentlie. Att first he answered he woulde not come yett afterwards [*illegible*] was perswaded to come to Mr Maior and being come Mr Maior demanded of Buckston what was the cause hee disobeyed his command and refused to goe toward, he answered he had noe reason to goe, neyther woulde he for it was more then needs, and that Mr Maior coulde not commande him nor should not with other vilde and unseavell speeches saying then, the next year Mr Maior might report that he had him in the olde shoppe when he was Maior. Then Mr Maior toulde Buckston that he woulde commit him to warde for his contempte before and for his disobeydiannce nowe and soe sent him by the Constable to the Gaole Buckstone answered and swore by God he woulde not goe to the gaole for noe mans pleasure and withall stroake or laid hands uppon Mr Maior speakeinge with manie vaine and lewde speeches against Mr Maior and others slanders by sitting him downe upon the bench in greate scorne and swore he would not reverence Mr Maior nor put of his hat to him. hee scorned it, he was as goode a man as Mr Maior and kepte as good a howse as hee Swearinge he would not goe to gaole (yf hee did) Mr Maior should carrie him thither or he would never goe Then the Constable and others gentlie laid hands upon the saide Buckston to have him away which he resisted and stroake, pintched and laide att them with his fist and heeles and would not obey the Constable nor his garde of A longe while, till with force they carryed him away, and then he reviled them most shamfullie as will appeyre.

[Buckston made his submission to the Mayor Dec: 18 and the Maior and Justices were so much moved by it,—“This submission did much worke in the harte of the said Maior and Justices,”—that they bound him to appear at the Quarter Sessions instead of before the Judge at the next Assize.]

CLXII. *Farthing Tokens*

Hall Papers VI, No. 37. [Dec. 16, 1615.] Worthy Sir * * Whereas his Matie by proclamacion bearinge date the 26th day of October last hath bene pleased by way of resumpcion to establish the Continnuance of his highnes farthing Tokens And to prohibite the use of all other Tokens, whatsoever Straightly Chardging and Commandinge all Mayors Justices of the peace and other his ministers to see the due performannce and execucion of the premises. These are to desire you to receave of the bearer hereof one small Trusse in Canvas marked L

Contayninge Twenty poundes which are 80 papers of 5s. 3d. every paper of his Mat^e said farthing Tokens with the allowance of 21s. for 20s. for his Mat^{ies} Subiects And to do your best endevor by Some of your officers for the issuing and Converting thereof into other moneys with all Convenient speede, And to returne or send by the Carryers or otherwise, the said money or such part thereof unto mee as you shall receave from Time to time for the same And the said officer for his allowanncce is to have Two shillings upon every pound which shalbe paied within 2 monethes after the date hereof otherwise it is but 12d. per pound for all such quantity as he or his friendes shall disperse there or in other places thereabouts. * * * From the office in London in Bishopps gate Streete neere to the Syne of the Black Bull This 18 of December 1615.

Your worships to command
Gerard Malynes.

CLXIII. *Exaction of fines on false pretences*

Hall Papers VI, No. 38. [Feb. 17, 1615/16.] [Examination of Thomas Heath.] This said examineth saith that he hath att severall tymes bene with divers persons in Leicester and toulde them that they had forseyted there Recognizannces for dressinge and eatinge of flesh contrarie to the statute yet if they will agree with him, he wyll stay proces that they shall not come downe aganst anie of them, whereupon manie of the victualers have compounded with this examineth. And beinge demanded howe he cometh to know the peynalties of the lawes and that there Recognizannces are forfeited, saith that hee is whollie directed in this busines by one henrie Clarke of Leicester an informer for this examineth did not knowe the lawe but onelye the said Clarke toulde this examineth what Course he should take with anie offendour, which this examineth hath done and performed this winter past, and saith that he hath taken monie of divers persons in Leicester for Composition in this busines. And that he tooke of Thomas Buckstone ijs. of Robert Erick iijs. iiijd. of John Shilton ijs. of John Cotes xxijd. And allso saith that he hath paide to the saide henrie Clarke vijs. vjd. in parte of this Composition monie. And was to paie to him more as he receyved the same. And beinge demanded howe much monie he hath receyved saith he knoweth not, but he hath bene with divers persons in Leicester and hath receyved some monie but how much he knoweth not.

CLXIV. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1614-15*

[Lists of sums borrowed Mr Stringer of London £100, Mr Rudyard £50, Mr Churchman £50, Mr John Heyricke £20.]

Other receipts this yeere as followeth.

*Item receyved of the Companye of the xxiiij^{ti} towards the charge of the trayninge and musteringe of xlij soldyars for the Borough of Leicester and Subburbs thereof three dayes togeither in October Anno Domini 1614. xvij*li*. vis. viiid.*

*Item receyved of the Companye of the xlviij^{ti} towards the saide charge xvij*li*. xiijs. viijd.*

Item receyved of the Comynors of the saide Borough towards the same xvili. xviijs. vid.

*Item receyved of Henrie Parnell for parte of the tymber which was about the cage when it stoode att Barehill Crosse iij*li*. vis. viijd.*

Guifts of wyne etc.

*Item the viii^{ti} of Februarie paide for a pottle of wyne given to Master Fabyan the Saltpeeterman and to Mr Richardson his sonne in lawe xx*d*.*

Item paide for a pottle of sacke and a pottle of clarett given to Mr Sargeant Knightley att his comyninge to Leicester when Mr Maior and certen of his Breetherne had speeche with him about the renewinge of there lease for the fines amercyaments weyves streyves and fellons goods. iijs. iiijd.

Item paide for wyne given to the said Mr Knightley and Mr Richarde Hoode after the Towne had compounded with him for a newe lease ijs. iiijd.

[Payments to great persons. April 1. Sir Henry Savile.

Payments to Players. The Prince's 40/-; Lord Dudley's 10/-; Queen's 40/-; Earl of Sussex' 30/-.]

Reparacions.

Item paide for Richarde Burstall for makinge twoe greate iron hookes sett upon two poles readie att the Towne hall for any scarfire xijs. viijd.

More charges this yeere laide out for the Incorporatinge of the hospitall in the Newarke of Leicester which are now brought to Leicester and is nowe under the Great Seale of England and under the seale of his highnes Duchie of Lancaster by the meanes of the right worshippful Sir William Heyricke Knighte the townes speciall goode frende and true soliciter in this busines vicz.

*Item paide to M^r George Wadlande to the use of the saide Sir William Heyricke Knight in full payment of and for all the charges which the saide Sir William had laide out about the drawinge and ingrossinge of the Letters patents of the said Hospitall and for the fees of the said Greate Seale and Duchie Seale as appeyres by Sir William Heyrickes note under his owne hande remayninge upon the file for this yeere. xvij*li.* xix*s.* viij*d.**

[Payment of £220—part of £1000 purchase money of the Newarke Graunge—purchased from Sir W. Smyth.]

Charges this yeere laide out by the Towne in and about the trayninge and musteringe of forty three soldyars for the Borough.

Item given to Samuell Yates George Langley and Roger More for trayninge our soldyars beofore they were shewed to there Captayne vi.

Item given to Captaine Savile for his paynes and kindnes in allowinge some of our olde armor which the Deputie Lieutennents disliked vjs.

Fees Wages etc.

Item paide for watchinge Thomas Reeves kilne after the Scarfire iiijd.

Item paide to Leppington for carryinge of Letters from the Towne and the Justices of the Countie of Leicester to the lorde Cheife Justice of Englande for the remoavall of the Countie Gaole for feare of infecion. xiid.

Item paide to a cutler beinge a strannger whoe married William Raynescrofts daughter to packe them out of the towne his wife beinge verie bigge with childe xs. and to Robert Jarvice to bring them out of the towne xs. iiijd.

Item paide to a Messenger that was sent from M^r Maior and the Justices of peace of this countie of Leicester with letters to the lorde Cooke concerninge the remoavall of the Gaole for this Countye whereupon the saide gaole was remoaved to his olde place againe. xs.

[Receipts £752. 12. 6*3*⁴.
Expenditure £686. 8. 11.]

CLXV. *Letter to Bishop of Lincoln*

Hall Papers VI, No. 60. [May 1, 1616.] Right Reverend—whereas it hath pleased his Maiestie to incorporate his hospitall within the Newarke of Leicester unto us and our Successors for ever And accordinglye did appoynt the Maior of the Borough of Leicester for the tyme beinge a Master of the same. And wee * * * doe holde our selves

bounded to seeke all the good we can for the better mayntenannce and releife of the poore Almesmen within the said hospitall. And whereas * * we have been Latelie advertized that a perswasive Sermon to charitye and releyvinge the poore performed at or in the said hospitall upon everye Whitson Monday by some able and fitt man for that purpose, would much excite the harts of the Awditorie to extend liberallye unto the saide poore men, our selves furtheringe the same by our owne examples which we intend to doe. And for that it is A thinge as yett never attempted nor putt in practyce wee hold it our duties to crave your Lordships favour herein before wee anywaye undertake the same And therefore knowinge your Lordshipp to be A furtherer of all pious and Godlie courses wee are bolde by theise to crave your Lordshipps approbacion of the premisses.

[Signed by W^m Ive (Mayor) and 6 Aldermen. The reply is signed by R. Lincolne on same sheet.]

As farr as in me lyeth I doe very willingly assent to this mocion and wish it all good successe, leaving it to the discretion of Mr Maior and the rest that have here subscribed to make choice of a convenient place for the Sermon to be preached in if they conceave the Chapell of that hospitall to be too lyttle for that sermon to be had' in Soe as the Sermon be preached by a sufficient lycensed preacher.

CLXVI. *Extracts from Proclamation concerning a doctor*

Hall Papers VI, No.66. [June 10, 1616.] To all Christian people * * Knoweth yee that in June last past by the Kings Maties most gratiouys sufferance there did come to the Borough of Leicester one Bartholomew Frederic Fanderlas docter of Phisicke and pratisisioner in Surgerie and ymediatelye after set up certen bills or ticketts to signifie unto his highnes subiects what Cures (by Gods good permission) hee will undertake at which time there did allsoe come to Leicester aforesaid one [blank] Bannister (and as he said) was then an Inhabitant in the Towne of Stamford in the County of Lincolne, whoe abbruptlye and without lycense set uppe his bills on certen posts in Leicester to manifest his experiance * * * and coulde not be content therewith but in greate scorne and disgrace of the saide Mr Doctor did write upon his owne bills after they were sett upp theise maliscious words vicz This professor is att the Angell hee is noe Cozennynge Jerman where uppon the said Bannister was brought before us * * * and uppon his examinacion did acknowledge that hee had done the saide Mr Doctor wronge in soe

doing and thereupon hartelye sorie and humblye desired us he might have libertie to take down his bills which was grannted * * * and there-upon the said Bannister departed from the said Borough of Leicester.

[See also Hall Papers VI, No. 138.]

CLXVII. *Papers relating to a Recusant*

Hall Papers VI, No. 81. [Aug. 17, 1616.] [The examination of Frances Joanes and Ellen Hawkins by the Maior and Justices.] The said examineth beinge demanded when she receyved the Sacramenth saith not this xx^{ti} yeeres after the protestant lawe, but she receyved it after the Catholique Roman manner about three weeks before Easter last at the french Imbasitors in Charterhouse London. And saith she is a recuzant. And refuseth to take the othe of Allegiance Or the othe of Supremacie And therefore soe refusinge is according to the Statutes sent to the Comon Gaole.

Ellen Hawkins of Newton Longfeilde in the Countye of Buckingham spinster saith she is A Recuzant, And never receyved the Sacrament after the protestant lawe, but she saith that she receyved it after the Catholique Roman lawe about a fortnight or three weekes before Easter last at the Spanish Imbasiters in Barbican in London. And likewise refuseth to take the Oath of Allegiance or the Oath of Supremacie, and therefore is accordinge to the Statute sent to the Comon Gaole.

Hall Papers VI, No. 99. [Nov. 25, 1616.] [Letter to Sir Raphe Wynwood Principal Sec. of his Mat^e.] Right Honorable. I humblie beseech you graciouslie give me leave to inform your wisdome that in my sundrie passages of late between London and Yorke about the troublesome benefice of Darfeilde I have stayed divers tymes at the Towne of Leicester and preached there by reason whereof I was drawne to visit A woman prisoner there for recusancie, whome I founde soe ingenious and pregnant, yet soe capricious and confident that I coulde not but spende some tyme with her in Conference, the rather because she was of an humble spirite readie toung, and rife head, beinge throughlie trayned, traded, and traveled, in the Courses ambages and embazages of the papists manie yeeres, by reason of her Condicion of life, under the style and habite of a pilgryme passinge as a foote post frome place to place attended with A mayde servant carryingnge messages tokens peticions bookes letters pictures medales Crusifixes reliques etc to dispose which are in my hands to present for it hath pleased Allmightye God upon often and gentle treatie with her

thereby satisfyinge her in those doubts and poynts which did seduce her, that she is reconcyled unto our Church comes to divine service and preachinge hath taken the Oath of Supremacie is readie for the Sacrament devoutlye and ioyfullie shewing herselfe in all theise and to give the more testymonie and better assurance of her true Conversation to God and the State, shee doeth earnestlie crave to be brought to the presence of those that have power to take notice and order for matters of that nature and Consequence which she is able and willinge to discover hoping they will prove acceptable to God and his Matie because they concerne the glorie of the one and the safetie of the other positively as she affirmeth, she could gladlye have opened and eased her hart unto me in the particulars but I knowinge noe comission I had to enter into the Seycrets of state, I would not meddle though for the misteries of the Church which are comitted to me by good warrant I have not spared her in them nor fayled to cherish her dutifull and religious disposition, till she be fitted with tyme place and persons to take her intelligence, intreatinge the Magistrates of Leicester to retayne her in Custodie for the Kings service untill his Maties pleasure be knowne They have undertaken it gladlie doe entartayne and maynteyne her in the meane season comfortablie and charitablie which I did intend yer this in person to have made known unto your honor to whom it doth belong and I doe owe myselfe. But God hath hindered me with such extreame sicknes that since the tyme of her recoverie till this I have not beene able to write much less ride [*illegible*] I helde it my part to impart theise occurants to your honor assoone as I could referringe them and my endeavours to your grave and religious consideracion and dispose

Your Honors devoted in the lord

Richard Jefferay.

(from Leicester)

CLXVIII. *Extracts of a letter from Mr Harvey*

Hall Papers VI, No. 107. [Dec. 18, 1616.] Sir I pray you let me put you in mynd to restraine your superfluous nomber of Alehouses and to put an assise uppon the Common bruars of Ale and bear for if you begin not their it is in vaine to put an assise uppon thos that retaile it under them for they must sell as they buy [*illegible*] and I desire you to loose no prvyledge in the Newark but to goe as Mr Mayor of Leicester whatsoeuer is sayd or done against you for I hold you have as good jurisdiccion there as at the markett crosse.

CLXIX. *Meeting of the Mayor and Aldermen*

Hall Papers VI, No. 120. [Jan. 15, 1616/17.] Mr Recorders letter openly red: which for the vintage Mr Ive beinge offered to renewe his Lycense againe for drawinge of wynes, is unwillinge to renewe the same. But saith hee will this next terme shewe his Lycense which hee hath from the Kinge to Mr Recorder and yf his Lycense will not be a sufficient warrant to him to drawe wynes Agaynst all persons whatsoeuer That then hee will withall willingnes become the Townes tenant for his Lycense againe.

CLXX. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers VI, No. 132. [March 7, 1616/17.] Imprimis it is Agreed that the Chamberlins of Leicester from henceforth shall not make anye straunger freeman of Leicester for anye somme of monye without the lycense and consent of a Comon Hall.

CLXXI. *Letter to Lord Huntingdon*

Hall Papers VI, No. 140. [March 22, 1616/17.] Right Honorable * * I received your Lordships Letters in the behalfe of Thomas Stanforde his wife, to grannte her A lycense to kill fleshe this tyme of lent Maie it please your Honor that by the Statute of Anno primo Jacobi Regis itt shall not be lawfull for anye Maior or Justice of peace to grannte anye Lycense to kill Beeves Muttons Veales and such like fleshe in tyme of lent. And yeerelie since his Mat^e hath sent to Leicester and other Corporacions certen orders thereby commandinge all Maiors and Justices of peace to forbeare to grannt anye suche Lycense yett att your Honors request I shall bee willinge to tollerate her and her servants this Lent tyme to kill fleshe though I had formerlie tollerated two poore butchers in Leicester to kill Kidd and Lamb accordinge to ye Statute in that case provided * *

Thomas Erick Maior.

CLXXII. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1615-16**Other receipts.*

Item receyved of Mr John Freake whiche was remayninge in his hands since the yeere of his mayraltie for certen fines which he then receyved: xlvis. and for the charges in suite of lawe against the saide Mr Freake for the recoverye thereof vii. xid. So in the wholl. Liiijs. vijd.

*Item receyved of the right honorable William Lorde Cavendishe Baron of Hardwicke the some of one hundred pounds being his honors free guifte to the Corporacion of Leicester upon condicion that the Maior Bayliffes and Burgesses of Leicester Shall forever yeerelie upon the feast daye of St James thappostell pay the some of viii*l.* to xx*t.* severall poore howsholders freemen of Leicester vis. a peece to buy them a loade of coales, the one halfe of the saide poore howseholders to bee yeerelye nomynated by his honor and the other halfe by the Maior of Leicester and sixe of the most ancient Aldermen of Leicester. Soe receyved. cli.*

Guifts of Wyne etc.

Item given to a messenger that brought a proclamacion for Justices and Gentlemen to repaire from London to there howses in the severall counties and there keepe hospitalytie iijs. iiijd.

*Item the xxxth of Julye paide for a deepe silver bason wayinge fortie and six ounces att vs. viijd. the oz which was given to the right honorable Sir John Dacombe Knight Channcellor of his highnes Duchie of Lancaster by the towne to signifie there true affection to his honor beinge newelie come to his place xiij*l.**

Item the xxijth daye of August (1616) paid for the charges of Sir Edward Moseley Knight His Maiesties Atturney of his highnes corte of the Duchie of Lancaster comynge oute of Yorkshire to Leicester whoe tooke this smale kindnes most thanckfullie xxxijs. iiijd.

Item the xvith of August paide for a hogges head of Clarett wyne given to the right honorable the Earle of Huntingdon att the Kinges beinge att Leicester His Honor then beinge att greate charge in making provision to entertaine the noblemen which came with his Maiestie in progresse to Leicester [blank].

Item paid for seaven gallons of Clarett wyne given to Sir Henrie Hastings of Brawnston in the Countie of Leicester Knight at the funerall of that most worthie and honorable Gentleman Walter Hastings esquier deceassed that loved Leicester most heartelye. xviijs. viijd.

[Payments to great persons. Oct. 24. Earl of Rutland. Lady Stanhope June 12. Lord and Lady Cavendish.

Payments to Players. Children of Revels 30/- and 20/-.]

Reparacions.

Item paide to Richarde Brookes for gettinge stone neire the Maiors old hall. viijs. vid.

Item paide to Robert Ludlam for mendinge of a locke att the

towne hall and for iron worke to sett up Sir Thomas Whites picture in the said hall which picture was freelye given by Sir William Heyricke Knight in his love to the Corporacion of Leicester xijd.

Item paid to vii laborers for clensinge and makinge cleyne the lane on the backside of the Earle of Huntingdons howse against the Kinges comyng to Leicester and for makinge cleyne the said schoole howsse lane and other places in the towne most needfull. xs. vid.

Musters.

Item paid for xlivij yardes of white vid. ribyninge and for xlivij yardes of watched vid. ribyninge att [blank] the yarde whiche was given to the Towne soldiars as favors to bee knowne from the soldyars of the Countye as everye Captayne had his Coullers ij*l*.

Item paide for two yardes of Levin taffata given to Thomas Nurce the drummer whoe led the soldyars to there Captayne iijs.

Item paide for iij Queyre of Browne paper to waye up gunpowther iijd.

More charges.

Item paid for sixe dozen and viij yardes of six penye rybinyng att vs. the dozen: which were given to the soldyars agaynst there goynge in the Rowe Dikes to bee trayned. ili. xiijs. iiijd.

Item paid for the remoavinge of the hurdells from Barehill Crosse before the comyng of the soldyars out of the feilde which place was appoynted for the soldyars to stand in rancke to heare prayors. ijd.

And nowe allso payde to Francis Noone the Muster Master by the Earle of Huntingdon his honors appoyntment vili. which is more then ever the Towne paide att any of the former musters and more then ever was knowne or harde of before, in consideracion thereof his honor upon payment of the saide vili. did forbeare to laye anye charge upon Leicester for men and munpcion for his Maiesties then present service for Irelande which was xxv men for the wholl countie of Leicester vili.

[Fees to King's officers during King's visit Aug. 15 1616. £19. 15. 4.]

Fees etc.

Item paide to Edward Daniell for a copie of his Maiesties letters patentes made to one Mr Mannewringe of all fynes amerciaments fellons goodes and such other things grannted unto him and for a copie of the grannt from the said Mr Mannewringe to one Mr Sam: Knightley of the same whoe hath nowe grannted a newe lease to the Maior Bayliffes and Burgesses of Leicester of the said fynes and amerciaments xs.

Item paide to John Mabbs the younger, Thomas Camden, and John Burgalam for there paynes into the Sowth feildes to attend Mr Maior to make a perfecte Tarrer of the yarde land past over the said Lorde Cavendishe for the sure payment of the vili. yeerelie for ever xviiiijd.

[Total of receipts and expenditure not given.]

CLXXIII. *Papers relating to Newark Hospital*

Hall Papers VI, No. 264. [March 2, 1617/18.] [Exam. of men in Trinity Hospitall.] John Churchman one of the foure men saith he is privy to a pe[ntion to the] Kings Maiestie thefecte thereof is that they cannot have there Charter ke[pt at] there hospitall [*illegible*] the perpetuytie for the setlinge of there lands to there house And howe he confesseth that John Gib had 20s. out of the store house, iiij men were acquaynted with Gibbs receipt of 20s. vicz this John Churchman Thomas Symkin, hide, and webster, and being demanded whie they did not lett the store men knowe of this 20s. said because they were not willinge to part with the same money for the good of the house.

John Smyth and Henry Smyth saie that they consented to the peticion but what the peticion is they cannot tell neyther doe they knowe what monie John Churchman and Thomas Sympkin tooke out of the store house but they hard that they tooke monie out and delyvered the same to John Gibb.

John Webster saith that he sett his hand to a petucion to settle the lands to the hospitall [*illegible*] that Mr Chauncellor and Mr Attorney said there land were losse, which petucion Gibbs hath [*illegible*] to London and hee is privye that ij of the 4 men paid John Gibb 20s. out of the store h[ouse].

Hall Papers VI, Nos. 276 and 263. [March 3, 1617/18.] [Letter to Sir W^m Heyrick concerning Gibbs Petition.] The only matter we can imagine that he had to alledge agaynst us, is for that the charter (whereby they weare lately incorporated) hath not been layd and kept within the hospitall it self and because indeed, they had therein noe place sure and safe ynough to keep it in * * * Gib himself knew well before his going up, that we had fully consented and given them our absolute promise that they should have their desire in that point very shortly * * * And according to our sayd promise we have since his going up layd it within the sayd hospitall as safely as we can. * * And

for all other matters whatsoever we are sure (and doe assure you on our credites) that we have given unto them noe just cause of complaynts at all having been wanting unto them in nothing, but beneficiall by all the good meanes we have beene able; And now newly old M^r Gibbs (one of the 6 assistants) hath given them an house (of 20s. by the year) for ever. But on the contrary, he (and some few of them by his instigacion) both have given and doe give us good causes of complaynt agaynst them and for to finde ourselves greatly grieved by them which we pray you, to give us leave to relate unto you. As first, by his being

1. A seedsmen of so much factious sedicion and cause for trouble amongst them and abroad as they do utterly wearye out the Maiors for the tyme being and make that all the benefit of the Mastershipp dooth nothing neare recompence that trouble which they put us unto.

2. That by their sayd sedicious and turbulent courses they doe and upon our knowledges are lyke to doe much hurte and hindrance unto the poore of the house in generell, by alienating the mindes of sundry well disposed persons, that did intende and have been beneficiall unto them in good measure.

3. Thirdly that Gib himself hath (by preferring his petition) dishonestly broken his promise made unto us (as often heretofore) so even now also, immediately before his going last from hence did that he would no more meddle in any such action agaynst us. Fourthly whereas he hath (as we hear) preferred the petition in the names of all the hundred and tenne poore people; first many of them denye that they did give any consent unto his performing of any petition at all at this tyme: And all of them (except only 5 or 6 of Gibbs Confederates) do utterly denye that they consented unto his making of any complaynt agaynst us; but only an humble petition in the behalf of them selves; and for the better assuring of certaine landes unto them, which they have, (and long have had) in their possession that (Gib wanting money, as it seemeth, for his journey about his owne private busines, and gadding humor) two of his Confederates, did privily and by way of stealth them selves alone and without the knowledge of any other, take twentie shillings forth and from out of one of their boxes wherein the comon money (wherein every one of the poore had a purse) did lye and whereof not one penny was (by the custom of the house), to be taken forth, but in the presence and with the privitye of seven of their officers. And this they did effect partly by means that the one of them was that officer who kept the key of the chest wherein the sayd box was and partly by coming into the

house where the said cheste stood of the said 7 officers that kept the key of that house were there so busyed with others about the selling of 4 deadmens goods as that they did not espye them taking out of the sayd 20s. as aforesayd which 20s. they did after deliver unto Gib with the privitye of 2 other Confederates that weare no officers.

And thus we have acquainted you with the whole busines between us and them * * That yf you may conveniently you would at our charges procure us a copy of the sayd petition

Your worships verie lovinge frends

Rouland Pusey Maior

Robert Heyricke

William Morton

Thomas Nixe

James Andrewe

William Davie

William Chamberlyn } Chamberlins

Thomas Holmes Chaplyn

Hall Papers VI, No. 269. [April 14, 1618.] Memorandum that the daye and yeere above written (upon the exhibitinge of a Certen peticion unto the right honorable henry Earle of Huntingdon by certen of the Almes men of the hospitall of the holie Trinitie in Newarke) It pleased his honour first to examyn alle the particulars conteyned in the said petition. And afterwards to order and determyne as followeth.

That there shall be before the feast daye of St John Baptist next following one booke of parchment leaves well bound, bought by the Maior Bayliffs and Burgesses of Leicester which booke shalbee given to the hospitall of the holie Trinitie in the Newarke of Leicester to that end that all the manors Lands Tenements and hereditaments which are allreadie or shalbee hereafter given to the said hospitall, shalbee written or sett downe in the saide booke And when the saide booke is boughte and provided for that purpose aswell the saide booke as all soe all the deeds and Evidences and the Charter of the said hospitall shalbee put and kepte in the chest of the saide hospitall whereunto there is allreadie three locks and three Keys, whereof the one keye is and shalbee kepte by Thomas Holmes Clerke nowe Chapline of the saide hospitall and by those chaplyns that shall succeed him. And other of the Keyes is and shalbee kepte by the Chamberlyns of the saide Borough of Leicester for the tyme beinge Or if one of the Chamberlyns die then by the survivinge Chamberlyn

for the tyme beinge And the third keye of the saide chest is and shalbee kepte by the four men of the saide hospitall for the tyme beinge for Ever hereafter.

That for Ever hereafter soe often and at all tymes as the poore men of the saide hospitall called the foure men or the poore men of the said hospitall called the storemen shall receyve anye monie for the goods of anye poore man that shall die in the saide hospitall, or for any other goods Cattells Chattells or Rents that shall be given or shall belonqe to the saide hospitall that the said foure men and the saide store men and all others that shall receyve any such some or somes of monie, or any other some or somes of monie to the use of the saide hospitall shall forthwith put the saide some or somes of monie into A box allreadie provided to keepe the same monie And which box doth and shall for Ever Remayne in the aforesaide Chest locked with Three locks as aforesaide the keyes whereof shalbee kepte by the severall persons aforenamed.

That every other or seconde week such monie that shalbee or Remayne or shalbee founde in the saide box within the saide chest in the saide hospitall shalbee by the foure men store men and Clerke of the saide hospitall in the presence of the Chamberlyns of the Towne and Borough of Leicester for the tyme beinge, given and distributed to the poore people of the saide hospitall equallye everye one of them alike.

Theise orders to bee putt and inserted amongst the other orders of the saide hospitall.

This is accordinge to my order but not soe fullye as I assure my selfe you will doe in the makinge of the Orders of the hospitall.
Leicester this 15th of Aprill 1618.

Huntingdon.

Rowland Pusey Maior.

CLXXIV. *Letter from Recorder*

Hall Papers VI, No. 148. [April 18, 1617.] Right Worshipful. I heere the poore pilgrim papist latly converted from her supersticious and eronious opinions is likely by your good favour to be released and her fees mittigated, yet by reason of her poverty it is to be feared she may fall to a relaps and through want desire ayd of her old acquaintance which may draw her to her old error, if this might be prevented by placeing her in the hospitall I shalbe an ernest sutor for her and shall desire you to shew her that favour if any place be void.

CLXXV. *Dispute as to right of way in Forest*

Hall Papers VI, No. 184. [Aug. 4, 1617.] Right Honorable upon Saturdaie last there was a generall greefe and complaint made in our Towne by divers poore husbandmen that dwell in the hundreds of Sparkenhoe and West Goscote neire to the Cole pitts which weeklie bring Coles to Leicester Markitt to sell there for there better releife And have all waies tyme out of mynde on the fridaie nights brought the Coles into Leicester forrest and neire unto the Kings heighe waie have sett downe there Carts and fettered there horses together and have suffered them to grasse neire unto the forrest gate and on the Saturdaie morninge by breake of the daie have taken upp there horses and soe presentlie [sett forward] for Leicester to sell there Coles And now * * that upon Saturdaie last in the morninge before daie certen of the Inhabitants of the Towne of Braunston (and as we are credable informed) with the consent of Sir Henrie Hastings of Kerbie in the County of Leicester knight did take and drive out of the said forrest manie of the said poore mens horses and ympounded them in the said Towne of Braunston to the greate greefe of the said poore men and woulde not suffer them to take Awaie there horses till they had paide for there severall carriage some xijd., some viijd., and vjd., which amounted to the somme of xiiij*s*. Wee therefore most humblie desire that your Lordship wilbe pleased to cause the said Sir Henrie Hastings and the saide Inhabitants to forbeare from henceforth to molest the saide poore men or to ympounde there horses the rather for that fewe of the Cattell of the saide forrest doe use to grasse in the place of the said poore mens rest beinge soe neire to the forest gate and for that the saide poore husbandmen will surcease to bring Coles for our Towne of Leicester which will be to the greate greefe of all the Inhabitants in our poore Towne unles by your Honors good meanes speedie course be taken therein.

Signed by Thomas Ericke Mayor and four Aldermen.

CLXXVI. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers VI, No. 185. [Aug. 8, 1617.] Imprimis it is ordered and agreed that the Towne shall give to the Earle of Huntingdon against the Kinges comynge to Ashbie One Yoake of fatt Oxen worth xij*l*i. vjs. viijd. or xiiij*l*i. att the discretion of Mr Pare, Mr Ludlam and such others as shall buy them.

CLXXVII. *Common Hall*

[Hall Papers VI, No. 160. [May 9, 1617.] Letter from Wadland with regard to an interview he has had with the Attorney General. Leeds is asking to be made a Staple Town and he suggests that Leicester shall join with Leeds and that the two towns shall share costs.]

Hall Papers VI, No. 193. [Aug. 30, 1617.] Imprimis it is agreed that Mr James Ellice the younger, Mr John Blount and Roger Hawfeilde shall goe to the Courte to Ashbie to Sir Thomas Lake Knight Secreatarie to the Kings Maiestie and learne of him whether the bill which Mr Attorney sent from London into Scotland cam to his hands or not And what the charges will bee to make Leicester a Staple Town to buy and sell woolls by grannt under the Greate Seale of Englande And yf the charges will not exceed 40*l.* then to proceede and Mr Wadland to attend Sir William Heyricke Knight aboute the effectinge thereof.

CLXXVIII. *Papers relating to Shambles and Drapery*

Hall Papers VI, No. 199. [Sept. 5, 1617.] Mr Maior * * I am geven to understand that theare is some question betwixt my Cosin Edward Catlin and you about the repaire of an house now yours wherein his father and Grandfather have longe dwelt from which and the Shambles I hope you will not put them out having bin so longe a tenant geving as much for them as any other man (bona fide) will give and putting in as good security both for the repair of the house and payment of the rent as any other man will doe I should thincke charity should move you (being the trew mark of Christianity) to make his case [*illegible*] one of yours and not so rigorously to throw out a pore gentilman withe his wife and children out of dores I can wryte noe more but that any kindnes you shall doe him shall be thanckfully taken bothe at my hands and at a better mans than myselfe.

Your very loving friend

Robert Spencer.

Wormleighton this

15th September 1617.

[Hall Papers VI, No. 55. [May 24, 1624.] Long letter asking that Catlin may retain lease of "Shambles howses." If he and his family are turned out "they shall not be the first you will put forth of your tenenee."]

Hall Papers VI, No. 198. [1617.] Imprimis it is Agreed that the Towne shall keepe the Shambles and Draperie in there owne hands after the expiracion of Mr Catlins lease, and after Michaelmas nexte Then to lett the same to the nowe Tenants of the said Shambles and Draperie, And agreed to answere [*illegible*] the Earle of Huntingdon and the Lorde Spencer there Letters.

Itt is allso Agreed to give Mr Robert Aston when hee shall leave his place of Schoole Mastershippe the some of Twoe Shillings everye weeke weekelie: DURING the Townes pleasure.

CLXXIX. Wood stealing at Grooby

Hall Papers VI, No. 221. [Jan.? 1617/18.] And the saide Richarde Choyse and allsoe one Richarde Norrice * * confesse that they both togeyther stole ashe poles out of the Lord Grayes wood called the sheete hedge neire Growby * * the said Choyse is nowe sent to the howse of Correction and appoyned to receive punyshment everye morninge untill Mr Maior and the said Mr Morton theire pleasure be further knowne.

Hall Papers VI, No. 249. [Jan. 12, 1617/18.] Whereas I have often written to your predecessors the Maiors of Leicester to desire them that some fitting punishment might be inflicted upon certaine persons that have made common practise of stealing of wood forth of the Forrest which they have hitherto forborne to doe in soe much that the number of the offenders is rather increased I have theirfore written theis lines to you intreatinge you that they may have some exemplarie punishment accordinge to their deserts it beinge an abuse too longe suffered there This bearer I have appointed to certifie you their names.

Huntingdon.

[Note on back to say Raphe Aston has been “punyshed in the Stocks.”]

CLXXX. Petition to King

Hall Papers VI, No. 146. [1617?]. To the Kinges most Excellent Mat^e. The humble peticion of the Maior Baylliffs and Burgesses of the Towne of Leicester. Humblie sheweth unto your Mat^e that whereas heretofore there hath beene a wooll markitt kepte twice everye weeke in the said towne of Leicester Att which markitt woolls of all sorts have beene contynuallie soulde to the greate benefitt both of the said Towne and Countie of Leicester. And whereas it hath latelie pleased your Mat^e not onely to remoave the Staple of sellinge woolls from beyond the Seas unto certen principal Cyties and Townes within

this Realme But hath allso forbidden all his subiects to sell woolls att anie other places But att the said Staple Townes as by your highnes proclamacion given at Burley the xxiiijth of March last past appeyreth. And for that in certen Counties and shires in Englande it hath pleased your Mat^{ie} to make a Staple Towne (savinge in the Countie of Leicester and some other fewe Counties as by the said proclamacion allso appeyreth for want whereof the wooll growers dwellinge in the said Countie of Leicester will be driven to keepe there woolls longer tymes in there hands unsolde to theire greate losse and hindrance, and the said wooll markitt that hath been formerlie kept att Leicester wilbe putt downe to the greate ympoverishment of the Inhabitants of the said towne of Leicester unles by your Mat^{ie} doe prevent it.

Maie it therefore please your Mat^{ie} graciouslye consideringe the premisses in regarde that the Towne of Leicester beinge one of the Townes of greatest antiquitye within this Kingdome and where manie Marchaunts of the Staple have and doe dwell therein That your Mat^{ie} would be pleased that the said Towne of Leicester might bee made a stable [sic] Towne in as ample manner as other Townes nowe are and your said peticioners shall as in dutie bound dailie praie for your Mat^{ie} long and happie raigne over us Dyvers Northern Clothiers have usuallie Bought there woolls in Leicester And your Suppliants shall accordinge to their bounden duties dailie to praye to God for your honours long life with increase of honor long to contynew.

[The petition was first addressed to Buckingham, but afterwards this was crossed out and the King's name substituted. But the petition was presented by Buckingham, cf. below p. 172.]

CLXXXI. *Meeting of the Mayor and Aldermen*

Hall Papers VI, No. 216. [Oct. 27, 1617.] Itt is this present daie ordered and agreed that yf anye hue and crye come Northward up Belgrave gate to goe Sowthwarde, that then the same hue and crye shalbe fourthwith conveyed from the Constable of Belgrave gate to the Constable of Galtrie gate and from thence to the Constable of Mr Andrewes warde, and so from thence to the Constable of the Sowth gate and from thence forwards accordinge to the direction of the same hue and crye.

CLXXXII. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1616-17*

Other receipts.

Item receyved of Mr Thomas Sacheverall Mr John Heyricke Mistriß Elizabeth Warde and William Billers the some of xvli. to hold the same untill the Annunciacion 1622 and the Towne to paye yeerelye

xxs. for the use thereof to the twoe under Usshers of the Gramor Schoole in Leicester in consideracion that they shall from hence fourth teach there poore schoolers to wryte from tyme to tyme. xvli.

Guifts of wyne etc.

Item paid for a pottle of wyne given to one Mr Richard Jefferye as hee said was the Kinges chaplin and preached att Leicester xxd.

Charges in suites of Lawe.

Item paid for the charge and horsshier of Roger Hawfeilde beinge sent with a petition to the Kinges Maiestie to Yorke att his goinge into Scotland to moave his highnes that Leicester might be made a Staple Towne to buy and sell woolls as Northampton and other townes which petition (by meanes of the right honorable the Earle of Buckingham) was by his Maiestie grannted unto Leicester vli.

Item paid to the said. Mr Wadland to followe the wooll staple patent this Candlemas terme under the greate seale of England, That the Borough of Leicester may have libertye to buy and sell woolls as Northampton and other Cityes and Corporacions doe, the some of xlii.

[Payments for Players. The Queen's 20/- and 20/-.]

Fees Wages etc.

Item paid towards the making of the Butts in the Butt Close. ijs. iiijd.

Item paid to Robert Ericke post Master for his charge and horsshier beinge sent with letters to the Councell from one Mr Jefferye a preacher concerninge one wydowe Stanley an olde recusant, and nowe a convert xxxs.

Item allowed unto the saide late Chamberlains for there neclgence in not settinge downe paid to a companye of playors which had the Townes rewarde of xxss. As they verylie thincke. viijs. ob. q.

[Total receipts and expenditure not given.]

CLXXXIII. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers VI, No. 260. [March 31, 1618.] First it is ordered and agreed that the Comissioners shall forthwith viewe the Wooll hall and the Roomes [*illegible*] lett the same to Mr James Ellice for the rent of xli. per annum with such Covenants as they in their good d(escretion) agree upon, to the ende that the Wooll markett and Staple maye bee mainteyned for the good of the B[orough] for the terme of Seaven yeeres from Midsomer nexte.

CLXXXIV. *Meeting of the Mayor some Aldermen and Chamberlains*

Hall Papers VI, No. 274. [April 20, 1618.] It is agreed to send up the names of Robert Erick the elder, Henrie Watts, Richard Sotherne and Zacharie Sympkin to the Worshipful the Maior and Companye of the Wooll Staple London for them to nominate and appoynte them to bee officers for the Borough of Leicester to perform such orders in the said wooll hall as the said Maior and Companye shall prescribe to be done thereafter.

CLXXXV. *Letter to Merchants of Staple*

Hall Papers VI, No. 278. [April 23, 1618.] Right Worshippful we thought good to let you understand that it hath pleased the Kings Mat^e by his letters patents to appoint our towne and Borough of Leicester to be a Staple towne and further to signify unto you that we have a wooll hall with divers howses in the same that have locks and kaies and that have bene heretofore used for to lay woolls in that we have also an ancient beame with weights and scales already provided for the weighing of such woolls as shall be thither brought for to be bought and solde. And to that end that a due and orderly government may be established at our said Towne for the weighing proving searching and disposing of all such woolls as shall be brought to our towne to be bought or solde according to his Mat^{ies} Proclamacion we doe desire your worshipfull Company to appoint and nominate officers or give us leave to nominate and appoyn fitt officers amongst us and to prescribe and send us such orders as are to be kept at other Staple Townes, which (God willinge) shall be executed and performed according as you shall prescribe us, The bearer hereof being one of your Company can certify you what men we have amongst us fit to be such officers as you shall appoint.

Rowland Pusey Maior

Roberte Heyricke W^m Morton

James Andrewe Tho: Parker

William Ive and Tho. Ericke

To the right Wor: the Maior etc of the Marchants of the Staple.

CLXXXVI. *Extract from letter to Sir Thomas Hasilrige*

Hall Papers VI, No. 280. [April 23, 1618.] Right Worshipful. * * And yesterdaie beinge assembled att the said hospitall your request were made known unto the poore Almesmen therein: whoe were all-together unwillinge to entertayne any person of his age beinge (as I am informed) about the age of xxiiij yeeres. * * for such a person as they saie maie live to take the benefit which might arise to the howse by entertayninge of vj olde persons, and to admit a youth is contrarie to the orders of the said hospital, for ourseleves purposed to have placed A blynd youth borne in Leicester but the wholl howse were against his commynge.

CLXXXVII. *Letter to Recorder*

Hall Papers VI, No. 283. [May 1, 1618.] Sir I am bold to acquaynt you with the state of our towne busynes as it now happeneth with us in this my pryvat letter unto you, because I desire to be advised by you what is fittest for me to doe. You know at the last Assises I was threatened hard by the Judge to have a fyne sett one my head yf I did not take a course against Alehouses, which after your departar from hence from the Quarter Sessions I did begin to call them in question and made some of the cheiffe to pay fines, with protestations from them that they would never brew any stronger dryncke in their howses then they would afourd for (a quarte apenny the strongest) But in the midest of this busynes came one with a sassary [certiorari] out of the Crowne office to Remove all Recokinganses That have bene taken of any aylhoueskeeper sithence march was Twelmounthe And Lyk-wayes with a letter to command to cale all aylhoueskepers to be bound a new with som new Commissions which hath not heartofore ben done which I Intendered to hav gon forward withall, with all expeditision But that verie day that the Sussaray and directions for aylhouses came to my hand, commeth one with a warrant to creat Ines and hath given summons to all Ins, and also to dyvers which was herto for aylhouses, to apeare this tearme at London to make ther houses Ins, and some of them be such which I formerly had dismissed from drawing of any ayle at all, so that now the case is so with me, that I doe not know well how to proseed any waye for that I doe not know which must be Ins and which must be aylhouses for those that are Inns will not enter into bonde [*illegible*] it maketh ocation of a generall exclamation of the towne by reason of this new and hard proseedinge with them the

Recollysances some have sent up and I doe fear unles it be by your worshipes meanes a great many of our poore vittelers wilbe undon by it, who are not worth half the monye they are bound for I thinke they may easily prove all ther bonds forfeyted But especially those that have bin heartofore presented wee have sent all ther Recocknysanses up by Mr Wadland [illegible] and conseill in it which I intreat you to give him and myself in a lyne or two at his retorne what I were best to doe

Rowland Pusey (Maior)

CLXXXVIII. *Lottery for Plantation of Virginia*

Hall Papers VI, No. 289. [May 2, 1618.] * * Whereas the Kinges most excellent Mat^e hath under his seale of England authorised the Counsell and Company of Virginia for the erecting and keeping of Lottaries within any parte of his highnes Domynions for the support and benefit of that Plantation Wee by virtue of his Mat^es gracyous grannt doe earnestlye pray and desire you, out of your good respect unto us, and of your godly and Christian zeale to so worthie an Action, to be assisting unto theis our Deputies Mr Gabriell Barbor and Mr Lott Peere (being Members also of our Company) to whom for the long and approved triall we have had of their fidelity care and sufficiencye Wee have committed the managing of a running Lottarie to be kept in that your Towne of Leicester desiring * * * your favour and best furtherance seeing the profit arising thereby, tendes not to any private endes but onelye and whollye to the advancement of that most noble and Christian Plantation which wee have now great hope, and greater than heretofore, shall stand and flourishe to the honor of God, the benefitt of his Realme, and the enlargement of his Mat^es Domynions * * * Wee have thought good * * to intreat you to receave theis keyes hereinclosed of the blancks and also the severall Prizes together with a booke shewing all the particulers sealed with the Common Seale Praying you to cause the blanckes and Prizes to be well mingled together in the sight and presence of your brethren. And to appoint two of your Towne * * to sit daylie with theis our Deputys. And to locke upp and open the box every day, forbidding the poorer sorte to make any adventures therein, considering the advantage as it is playnelye set downe in the printed publicacions And to permit a Childe (who shalbe allowed for his paynes) to drawe out the Lotts for all that doe adventure So shall theis our Deputyes be freed from suspition or partiality * *

[Signed by a number of persons.]

CLXXXIX. *Letter from Atherton concerning toll*

Hall Papers VI, No. 287. [May 7, 1618.] We are instructed by our Counsell that they ought to pay toll for all such goods and Cattell as they do buy to sell againe being Drovers and not for their owne provision for their day or plow and also that they ought to pay toll for all such goods and Cattells as they buy for grounnds not priviledged by Charter.

CXC. *Letter from George Wadland*

Hall Papers VI, No. 285. [May 9, 1618.] Sir William Heyricke contineweth very weake, and sicke still I was with him uppon Wednesday and yesterday I was there agayne and could not be admytted to speake with him by reason of his weakness the wholle towne have need to pray for him for if it should please god to take him, wee shall all have a great losse of him, and hardly have such another frend lefte.

CXCI. *Letter relating to the Licensing of Alehouses*

Hall Papers VI, No. 336. [Nov. 3, 1618.] Right Honorable * * Maie it please your good Lordship to be informed [that] John Palmer did come to our Borough of Leicester with proces out of his highnes courte of [illegible] and did serve the same upon manye poore Alehowskeepers within the same Borough perswading them they must make there Appearance in the said Office in Easter terme following and there for a certan somme of monye [and] fine and a yeerelie rente beside might take and have lycenses for ther [Aylehouses] made Common Inns Some of which said Alehowskeepers have beene thought unfitt persons to have [licence] granted unto them to be Alehowskeepers and others of them for there misdeameanors have been suppressed and att this presente stand dismissed from keepinge any And therefore wee most humblie desire your good Lordshipps to [provide] A meanes that noe such licences may be grannted without a certificate from us of his good behavior and the convenient Scituacion of his howse to receive strangers And further maie it please your honors to bee informed of some trouble that hath and dailie doth [illegible] suppressing of Inkeepers and Alehowskeepers which brewe stronge Ale and Beare and so breake the true Assise Manie of them have beene severall tymes fined and inforced to paie there fines according

[they] cannot bee brought into so good order, as is to be wished and as the lawe in that case [provideth] Wee therefore most humblie desire that by your Lordshipps good meanes there maie bee some order taken to [provide] that noe person or persons in Leicester beinge Inholders or Alehowskeepers shalbe suffered to [brew Ale or] Beare within there owne howses But that they now be inforced to take the [illegible] Brewers which weeklye brew and keepe the trewe Assize according to the law requiring [illegible] verie holesome drincks that the Retayllors thereof maie well afford to sell to any of [the Kinges] Subiects A full Ale quart of there best Beare and Ale for A penny Which yf by your Lordshipps good meanes the same maie [be provided] not onlie manye score quarters of maulte But allso manye loads of wood and C[oal] and the odious and lothsome synne of drunckennes verie much restrayned

Nicholas Gillot Maior Thomas Ericke
William Ive Rowland Pusey.

To Sir Henry Hobart. Chief Justice of Common Pleas

CXCII. *Extract from Robert Heyrick's Will*

Hall Papers VI, No. 357. [Jan. 13, 1618/19.] A Branche of Mr Robert Heyricks last will. I give forth of the house I dwell in five pounds yearlye for ever with five pounds to be paide into the Maiors hand for the time being every yeare yearlye for ever on the second daie of Februarie and by the Maior and foure Justices delivered by their discretions to every severall parish in the Towne, St Leonards to be one The monie to be divided by the Maior and Justices unto the Minister and Churchwardens of every parish The monie to be shared by the Maior and Justices to the Minister and Churchwardens according as they shall thinke fittest for every Parish, and as the greater or lesse number of pore be in the Parish The Churchwardens to distribute the said monie in bread. A twopenny loafe to every housholder, or olde bodie that shall receive any of the said almes.

CXCIII. *Letter from the Recorder*

Hall Papers VI, No. 370. [March 8, 1618/19.] Sir I wrote unto you to bynd your vittalers from fleshe dressinge and if they resisted to bynd them over to the Assises but seeing the Justices of Assise their inclinacion not to be trobled with this busines I have thought fitt to desire you to turne that course, And if they will not be bound to prohibit them from vittaling if they will Vittaile notwithstandinge, then

to certifie some two or three of your best Vittalers that doe refuse and the most obstinate unto the Council Bord and they are sure to smart for it and will terrifie the residew Itt is fitt to doe somewhat in this busines least you be blamed for assure your self somewhat wilbe expected at your hands and at all Corporacions, and thos that be certified will assuredly have a pursyvant sent for them.

CXCIV. *Charter of Staple of Wool*

[*Operative portion of Charter of Staple of Wool (translation).*]

Charters, Letters Patents etc., No. 102. [March 12, 1618/19.] James by the grace of God etc * * * And whereas our well-beloved subjects the Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses of our Borough of Leicester have humbly besought us that we, for the improvement and utility of the Borough and for the maintenance and continuance of the ancient market of wool held and used there once in each week, would deign to assign and appoint the Staple of Wool, Wool Fells of this our realm of England to be held, observed and kept in the same Borough as [it is] in the other cities, towns and places aforesaid assigned for the Staple.

Know ye that we, * * graciously acceding to their humble petition, and also considering our aforesaid Borough of Leicester to be fit and suitable for the Staple, buying and selling of wool and wool fells, especially as no other city, town or place in our county of Leicester had been named and assigned by our previously mentioned letters patent for holding the aforesaid Staple, * * do, of our especial grace and certain knowledge and mere motion, for us, our heirs and successors, give and grant to the aforesaid Mayor, Bailiffs and Burgesses of the said Borough of Leicester, and to their successors, and by these our letters patent we do will, ordain and establish that from henceforth the Staple of Wool and Wool Fells for this our realm of England shall be held, observed and kept in our aforesaid Borough of Leicester among other cities and towns above mentioned assigned for the Staple, in as ample manner and form for all intents and purposes, as the said Staple of Wool and Wool Fells is, or might or should be, held, observed and kept in the said several cities, towns and places, or any of them, as is aforesaid, assigned and appointed for the said Staple.

And moreover we, of our more abundant grace, for us our heirs and successors, do give, grant and confirm to the aforesaid Mayor, Constable and Society of the Merchants of the Staple of England aforesaid, and to their successors, and to all and singular Merchants

and others being of the Society of the Merchants of the Staple of England, and to every Merchant of the said Society of the Staple, both present and future, and to each of them for the time being, full, free and entire power, licence liberty, faculty and authority that they, and all and Singular Merchants of the said Society of the Merchants of the Staple, for the time being, both present and future, and each and every one of them, by themselves and by the apprentices, servants and ministers of them and of each of them, and others whatsoever dwelling in their houses, mansions and dwelling houses, may and can freely, lawfully and with impunity expose for sale, sell and alienate, at all times and from time to time for ever, all and all manner of wool, not only refuse, rejected and inferior wool called "refuse, course woolles and lockes," and wool not fit for the Staple, but also all and all manner of other wool of whatsoever kind, species, nature or condition, growing within our realm of England or our lordship of Wales aforesaid, or either of them, or that shall hereafter grow within the same, to any person or persons whomsoever, and to agree and enter into and make covenants, contracts, bargains and promises for the same with any person or persons whomsoever, without hindrance, molestation, arrest, interruption, impeachment or suit from us, our heirs and successors, the officers, ministers or other subjects of us, our heirs and successors whomsoever, at all times of the year and upon any day or days of the week, except Sunday, notwithstanding in any way our aforesaid letters patent or the several statutes mentioned above in the said letters patent, or any other statutes, acts, ordinances, provisions, restrictions and proclamations made, issued, ordained or provided.

We will however and ordain and establish for us, our heirs and successors, that the said Mayor, Bailiffs and Burgesses of our said borough of Leicester, and their successors, and their officers and ministers shall be under the rule, ordinance and government of the aforesaid Mayor, Constable and Society of the Merchants of the Staple of England aforesaid, and their successors, for and concerning the said Staple of wool and woolfells and for the good ordering, disposition and government of the same, in the same manner and form for all intents and purposes as the Mayors, Governors, Keepers, Officers and ministers aforesaid of the other cities, boroughs and places assigned for the Staple by our aforesaid letters patent are and are deemed and held to be, or ought to be, under the rule and government of the aforesaid Mayor, Constable and Society of the Merchants of the Staple of England aforesaid, and of their successors, and not otherwise and in no other manner.

And moreover we, affecting from our heart the improvement and advantage of our said borough of Leicester, do, of our especial grace and certain knowledge and mere motion, give and grant for us, our heirs and successors, by the presents to the aforesaid Mayor, Bailiffs and Burgesses of our borough of Leicester aforesaid, and to their successors, for ever that the Mayor of the borough aforesaid that now is and that shall be in future times for ever shall have full power and authority to take and receive any recognisances whatsoever to be made between merchant and merchant and others whomsoever, and to make execution thereof, according to the form of the Statute of Merchants and the statute of Acton Burnell in this case formerly issued and provided; and we do by the presents assign, nominate, constitute and make our well-beloved Roger Hawfeild, the Common Clerk of the Borough aforesaid, to be the first clerk of us, our heirs and successors, to receive, write and enrol the recognisances aforesaid, according to the form and effect of the statutes aforesaid; willing that the same Roger Hawfeild, after he have been sworn before the Mayor of the borough aforesaid to execute that office well and faithfully, shall be and continue in the said office of Common Clerk of that town from the day of the making of the presents until the feast day of St. Michael the Archangel next coming, if he shall so long live, and if he behave himself well in that office, and from that feast until another fit for this be nominated, elected and sworn to that office. And moreover we will and do grant by the presents, for us, our heirs and successors, to the aforesaid Mayor, Bailiffs and Burgesses of our borough of Leicester, and to their successors, that, after the death or removal of the said Roger Hawfeild, the said Mayor, Bailiffs and Burgesses of the Borough aforesaid, or the greater part of them, shall thenceforth for ever have full power and authority to assign, nominate, establish and make another suitable person to be the clerk to receive, write and enroll the recognisances aforesaid, according to the form and effect of the statute aforesaid. Notwithstanding that express mention [has not been made in the presents of the true yearly value or]* of the certitude of the premises or of any of them, or any statute, act, ordinance, proclamation, restriction, or any other thing, cause or matter whatsoever in anywise.

In testimony of which matter we have caused these our letters to be made patent.

[* A portion of the *Eo quod* clause (cf. the Charter of James I, p. 88 above), probably more than is here supplied within square brackets, is omitted in the original. The scribe seems to have omitted an entire line of the draught before him.]

Witness myself at Westminster, on the twelfth day of March, in the fifteenth year of our reign of England, France and Ireland and of Scotland the fifty-first.

By writ of Privy Seal Yonge.

CXCV. Petition concerning dikes on common land

Hall Papers VI, No. 229. [No date.] I doe intreate you that it may be trenshe as it hath beene a fore time and the dikes scoured up or els it will be loste and doe poore men noe good wherof it hath beene done by the Chamberlines of our towne aforetime Mr Alton in his time and Michael Thorneton did do it Mr John Payne and his brother in his time did it and never since any did bestoue any coste of it and now it is loste for want [of] scouringe and the dike betwixte the cowe pasture and the Marye meadowe and if that any man like myselfe shoulde have a cowe to come by any mischance by it he is utterly undone and I doe well understand that the Towne hath the tax mony of the Keye and the have the rente of the willowes of the pastor; therefore I humblye intreate you all that there may be dewe consideration that there may be some order taken at this Common hall for it, It may be sayd that I do presume to medle in that which I have nothinge to doe in yet I doe presume for my one good and all other commyners good that I might move your Worshippes dewly to consider of it If I were a man of abillitie I would doe something to it my selfe yet accordinge to my powre I will doe as much as an other man shall thus leaving it to your considerations I committ you all to god Intreatinge you not to be offended with me in this my bould accesse

Your humble petitioner

John Slater.

CXCVI. Archer's Land

Hall Papers VI, No. 44. [No date.] Extracts from "A true Terrar of One yarde lande parcell of Two yard lande called Archers lande Lyinge and beinge in the Sowth feilds of Leicester in the occupacion of John Mabbes."

In Gallowtree feilde.

Imprimis five lands conteyninge two Acres Lyinge upon parradise furlonge shooting upon Parradise of the West.

Item i halfe acre Lyinge upon Gallowtree furlong.

Item ij half acres shooting into Evington hole.

In the Midle feilde.

Item three halfe Acres and iij hades shootinge upon Knighton meere and down into Knighton slade.

Item halfe A ley conteyning halfe a roode lyinge upon pease well.

In Rowe dike feilde.

Item iij rood leyes shootinge upon Nurcs winde mylne.

Item j olde roode shootinge into Greate Earles meyres.

Item iij lands and i hadland conteyninge vj roods shootinge upon Seyverne leyes.

Item i halfe Acre land Lyinge upon Rowe dike furlonge shootinge upon Ellston waye.

Item ij halfe Acres upon the same furlong shootinge upon Cowe drifte furlonge.

Item one olde roode Lyinge upon Cowe drifte furlong shootinge upon Ellston waye of the East and the Cowe drift upon the West.

Item one olde roode upon the same furlong shootinge upon Ellston waie of the East and the said Cowe drift of the West.

Summa x Acres i roode.

Summa total xxv Acres i roode.

CXCVII. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1617-18**Newe Rents parcell of the Towne wall etc.*

Item receivēd of Wm Whatten dyar for Twoe peeces of ground taken out of a Common dunghill in Bawdwyn Lane nexte the Westgate adioyninge to the Soce in his occupacion in fee farme xd.

[Manuscript defective at end of receipts.]

Guifts of wyne etc.

Item then given to Mr Edwarde Catlin of Woodgate in the parishe of Saincte Leonard beinge the Townes voluntarie and free guifture. xld.

Item paid for a breakfast and for wyne and suger given to Mr Lott Peece Master of Lotterye att there goinge awaye after hee had given to Mr Maior a verie faire silver and gilt cupp with a cover to goe from Maior to Maior forever and allsoe in silver xxli. Att which breakfast Mr Morton and others of the Maiors Breetherne were there xxvijs. ijd.

Item paid for wyne and suger given to Mr Doctor Clarke Warden of Mr Wigstons hospitall in Leicester att his beinge in Leicester is. xid.

[Payments to great persons. Earl of Shrewsbury.

Payment to Players. Queen's 22/-; Lady Elizabeth's 22/-.]

Reparacions.

Item paid for mendinge the freeschoole wyndowes beinge broken by the Scholors att the shuttinge fourth of there Master *vs. vid.*

Item in September paide more for the mendinge of the saide free-schoole wyndowes beinge foule broken. *xs.*

Suites of Lawe.

Item in the said Trynitie terme paid to the said Mr Wadlande for charge in suite of lawe against the said Raphe Parker and one Brooks of Allerton in Yorkshire for takinge of tolle of Leicestermen, and for orders from the Staplers and for a silver seale for sealing of all Statutes called the Kinges seale, and for other busines by him done for the Towne as appeyres by his bill *ijli. iiijs. vid.*

Fees etc.

Item the viij of December paid to watchmen for watchinge the free Schoole when the Scholers were soe unrulye to shut out there Master *iiijs. viijd.*

Item paid to a messenger to goe to Knighton to give the freeholders there notice to meeete our Towne Commissioners and farmors of oure Newarke Graunges to sett fourth the meyres betweene Leicester feilds called the South feilds and the feilds of Knighton aforesaid *ijd.*

Item paid to Mr George Dadland for twoe loads of greate Stone to stande in the feilds betweene the meyres aforesaid. *iijs. ijd.*

Item given to Mr Parker for teachinge the schoolors when Mr Hunt was gone from the schoole whoe took with him Mr Clarks Guift of *xs.* due att Michaellmas 1618 in respecte of his poore estate *xs.*

Item paid to Rober Ericke for his charge and horsshier to the Earle of Huntingdon for letters concerninge the choyse of Mr St John Burrowes whoe is nowe the headmaster of the free schoole in Leicester *vis.*

[Total receipts *?585 1 9½*
Expenditure *529 13 7*]

CXCVIII. Decree concerning claim to exact toll

[Charters Letters Patent etc. [104 17 James I.] Inspeximus and Exemplification
17 James I of decree of Court of the Duchy of Lancaster confirming exemption
from toll. Decree made on petition to Chancellor against Ralph Parker of Burrow
Bridge Co York for exacting toll.]

CXCIX. *Papers relating to Newark Hospital*

Hall Papers VI, No. 492. [13. ? 1620.] [Extracts from letter to Lord Huntingdon from Mayor etc. Starts by referring to fact that Gibbs promised before Lord Huntingdon not to bring any further complaints against the Mayor etc.]

But yet after Michaelmas last he did put upp another petition against us unto the Chauncellor and the Attorney of the Dutchie who att thende of that terme did make such orders as to there wisdomes did seeme fitt, not onelye in those matters which he had requested but allso for the government of the howsse in generall in tyme to come. And yett for all this, this unquiet man is gone nowe againe to London with a purpose to prefer some fallese Complaint, unto his Maiestie (for we are stet [*sic*] sure that he can alledge noe true cause) And for his creditynge in that Attempt he hath gotten the hands of some gentlemen that did not well knowe either the person or the busines about the which he went, being led there unto onelye by meanes and example of one or twoe, whose harts the Lorde turne, for by this meanes they make the Mastershipp of the hospitall a verie wearisome office and an exceedinge great trouble unto us.

Hall Papers VI, No. 479. [Jan. 29, 1619/20.] [Extract from letter from George Wadland.] Sir William Heyricke remembered his love unto you * * I have acquainted him with the doeings in the hospitall, he marvelleth that you doe not putt some of them out of the howse or inflict some other punishment upon them as by your authoritye he sayeth you may doe.

Hall Papers VI, No. 529. [September 19, 1620.] [Extracts from letter to Sir H. May Chancellor of Duchy. First part illegible; it refers to the fact that the Duchy Court prevented a Commission from interfering. When the order from the Duchy Court came the] troublesome almesman John Gibb, went into Court (ytt beinge then in Welsshire) to have gotten from [*illegible*] some letters of encouragement for the Commissioners, for to have proceeded notwithstanding But it seemeth that he [did] not obtain that he went for. And soe the Commissioners as yet have forborne to proceede.

Moreover we are humble sutors unto your honour that you will voutsafe to take notice of the true cause of the said Gibbs continuall complaininge against us. That it hath not been (nether is) defaulte att all on our parte * * but partlie the saide Gibbs owne pride, and turbulent humour and partlie the ancient malice of one other man against our

towne, who hath these many yeeres and still doth sett the said Gibb on worke A manifest proof and evidence whereof we have presumed to send herein unto your honour as we have received it for a copy of the Recorde. His Cheife purpose fore toulde wherein (att that tyme) he did shortlie after put in practise by that most cunning devise, to have gotten the Mastershipp of the hospitall from us for his brother under colour and by meanes of procuringe the howse to be incorporated by his Maiestie. And his desire to vex us continuallye, he hath performed ever since, by Gibb as his instrument not onely by making manie c[auseless] complaints against us * * but also by the said Gibbs owne intollerable disobedience against government and by working of trouble within the howse and allsoe by seeking to gett the ayde and countenance of Country gentlemen against us as if itt were A Controversye about a matter of righte between the towne and Country And soe likewise now even in this Comission we heare that he was att London with Gibb at the [*illegible*] of itt and that since he came down he hath carried himselfe as if he were a partye And it is not unlike but [he] will doe all he can possibllye for to maintayne it, or to revive it.

John Heyricke Maior etc.

Hall Papers V, No. 150. [No date.] In Sir Thomas Beaumonts Answere unto Mr Shermans Bill he saithe thus vicz.

That the Complainant affirmed and oftentymes tolde this defendant that his speciall motyve and desyre to purchase the said Messuages and premyses of this defendant was especiallye thereby to have the better occasion to vex and revenge him the saide Complainant of the Maior and Burgesses of the towne of Leicester with whom he then had and still hath suyts. And which saide Mayor and Burgesses pretended to have iurisdiction within the saide Messuages and Colledge of Newarke in the Bill mencioned which he intended if he proceeded in the saide bargayne with this defendant stronglye to ympugne and resist. And that by meanes of his neerenes to the said Borrough by inhabitinge upon the said pretended bargayned premisses he might the more easilye procure the Mastershipp of the olde hospitall standinge neere unto the said Messuages and premyses from the said Mayor and Burgesses of Leicester over their heads who then had and enjoyed the same. And that he also woulde by reason of his neere dwellinge unto them contynually vex them with suits in.lawe. And without that that the said Complainant had any intent to this defendants knowledge to seate himself upon the said messuages but onely desyred the same for the causes aforesaide.

[In "M^r Smalleys Answeare" the same statements are made.

Hall Papers, unbound, No. 102. [No date.] Letter from M^r Morton giving account of suits between Corporation and Sherman about the Frith Closes. The decision is in favour of the Corporation but Sherman continues to trouble the Town.]

CC. Apprenticeship of Servant

Hall Papers VI, No. 382. [April 27, 1619.] Nicholas Shipley of Leicester Shoemaker and Marie his wife are both Contented (in consideracion of xs.) to accepte of Jone Gittins theire late servant to bee theire Apprentice for three yeeres from Maie daie nexte And if she fortune to run awaye againe, that then shee shalbee sent to the house of Correction and theire to Contynue duringe her life.

CCI. Common Hall

Hall Papers VI, No. 405. [June 20, 1619.] And it is further ordered and agreed that yf anye Burneman or any other person or persons within the Borough of Leicester which doe use anye Carts for the Carriage of wares into the Markitt, or for the Carriage of Ale or Beare into the said Borough and with the said Carts doe use anye Iron bound wheeles from and after the first daie of August next Comynge, Then everye such person and persons for the uses aforesaid using the said Iron bound wheeles shall forseyte and paye iijs. iiijd. for everye daye soe usinge the same wheeles in the said Borough of Leicester to the use of the Chamber of the same Borough.

And lastlie it is ordered and agreed that both the Companye of the xxiiij^{ti} and xlviij^{ti} upon Sommons given unto them by anye of the Serients shall give meetinge at the Towne hall orderlie in there Gownes (by such an oure as shalbee appoynted unto them) before there goinge to anye Buriall within the said Borough upon Payne that if anye of the said Companyes doinge the Contrarie to forseyte and paye ijs. a peece for everye of the said xxiiij^{ti} and xijd. a peece for everye of the saide xlviij^{ti}. And likewise everye of them to forseyte and paye the like somes of monye, yf they or anye of them fortune to bee absent (upon the said somons) unles lycense bee given to anye person by the Maior for the tyme beinge.

CCII. Common Hall

Hall Papers VI, No. 437. [Sept. 3, 1619.] It is alsono agreed that ye Chamberlins of Leicester for the tyme beinge from hencefourth of there owne voluntarie [should] yeerelie bestowe upon the Tenn poore keepers of tholde hospitall twoe loads of pease strawe or fagotts and

allso *xxli.* of Candles, And this voluntarie and charitable gift to contynewe duringe the pleasure of the Maior and Corporacion and the saide keepers good behaviour to deserve the same, if the Maior and Assistants of the Burgh of Leicester doe contynewe Masters of the said hospital.

CCIII. *Meeting of the Mayor and other officials*

Hall Papers VI, No. 441. [Sept. 15, 1619.] William Camden Esquire alias Clarenceux Kinge of Armes of the East West and Sowth parts of this Realme of Englannde from the Ryver of trent Sowthwarde have graunted A Deputacion to Samson Leonard alias Blew mantle and Augustine Vincent alias Rouge rose Officers of Armes and theire Assignes to enter into all Churches Castles howsses and other places att his discretion to take survey and viewe all manner of Armes Cognisances Creasts and other devises of Armes of all and singuler his heighnes Subiects Aswell bodies Corporate as others within the said Province of what dignytye or Degree whosoevr they bee. the patent dated at Harfeilde the fifte daie of August in the first yeere of his Maties raigne. And the Deputacion dated the *xxvth* daie of Julie Anno Domino 1619. And in the seaven tenth yeere of his Maties raigne of England etc. * * and is for the Counties of Leicester Warwicke and the Cetie of Coventrie and libertyes thereof and not else where.

CCIV. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers VI, No. 451. [Nov. 26, 1619.] The wholl hall doth withall thanckfullness accepte of the Right honourable the Countess of Devonshire her guifte of the some of fiftie pounds of lawful monie of England to bee disposed of in manner and form following (that is to saie) *xvjli.* *xiijs.* *iiijd.* to be lent to five poore men freemen of the Borough by *3li.* *6s.* *8d.* to A man for 3 yeeres gratise to sett the poore on worke and the *xxxijli.* *vjs.* *vijd.* to give to the Chamber of the Towne, And the Chamber to paie yeerelie *40s.* to suche poore people in the Abbye gate as her honour shall yeerelie name and appoynt duringe her life and afterwards to such poore as the Maior and his Bretherne shall appoynte.

[Hall Papers VII, No. 144. [Feb. 27, 1622.] Close bought with the Countess of Devon's money.]

CCV. *Disturbance in S. Martin's Church*

Hall Papers VI, No. 462. [Dec. 3, 1619.] [Exam. of Marie Wood.] The saide examineth * * beinge at the sermon at St Martins Church in Leicester where shee see Mr Walcote prebend of St Margaretts in Leicester aforesaide, in the pulpite at St Martins aforesaide and seeing him kneele, when he saide the Lords prayer, this examineth being thrust by the people in the saide Church, sayde what a thrusting is here to heare this Jackanapes preach meaninge the saide Mr Walcote.

[The woman was imprisoned in the Olde Hall to await Quarter Sessions, but she apologised to Mr Walcote and was released.]

CCVI. *Fines for breaking Assize of Ale*

Hall Papers VI, No. 385. [1619.] Money received by Mr Nicholas Gillott Maior etc. of the Alehowsse keepers, and victualers in Leicester for not selling A full ale quart of best beare and ale for A penye.

[St Marys parish 31/8	S ^t Nicholas parish £3. 5s.
S ^t Martins parish £8. 6.	S. Leonards parish 10/-
S ^t Margarets parish £5. 1. 8.	Total. £18. 14. 4.
Extracts from payments made.]	

S. Maries parishe paide as followeth.

paide for Apparrell for Roberte Harrington the blynd boye ixs.

S. Martins parishe.

To John Smart at his going to London and to buy apparrell xs.

To Roberte Parker in his sicknes and at his death iijs.

For apparrell for William Kirche beinge bound an Apprentice xxss. vid.

for his indentures ijs.

For apparrell and monie to place one Homfrey Dawson that was chargeable to the parishe xxviijs.

ijs. was for his indentures.

All Saints parishe.

To younge Norice the pynmaker to sett him on worke xiid.

CCVII. *Order relating to Apprenticeship. 1615-1620*

Hall Papers VI, No. 439. [March 21, ?.] It is ordered by the right honorable the Justices of Assise of this burroe of Leicester by the expresse Comandment from his Mat^e that the Maior and Justices of

the peace of the said burroe shall with all convenient speed and hereafter when it shalbe needfull meete togeather within the said Burroe and call before them the Inhabitants of the said Burroe and their informe themselves by viewe or otherwise of all the children of persones not able to maintaine or sett them on worke and thereupon to take order that the Inhabitants take into their service the said children as their apprentices for such time as those Justices in their discreciones shall think fitt and if necessitie soe require in some speciall case that then they cause some convenient somme of monie to be assessed and levied in everie parish for the furnishing of such poore children for the puttinge them forthe as aforesaid And it is further ordered that the said Maior and Justices of peace shall at the beginninge of the next terme certifie the Justices of the Assises in particular what they have done in performance of this good worke Wherewith they will acquaint his Mat^e whoe expecteth the same and the Maior and Justices of peace shall alsoe certifie the names dwellings and qualities of everie person they shall find refractorrie That such order maie be taken with them thereupon as shalbe meete.

Henry Halam

Edward Bromley

CCVIII. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1618-19**Other receipts etc.*

Item receyved of the Companyes of the xxiiij^ti and xlviij^ti for defaults for not walkinge the fayor on Michaelmas daie Anno Domini 1618. vs.

Item receyved of one William Brooks Bayliffe of North Allexton alias Adwalton in the countie of York for charge which this Borough of Leicester recovered of him in suite of lawe in the Duchie Chamber att Westminster for takinge tolle of thinhabitants of the Borough of Leicester beinge freemen of the same borough. ili. xv.s.

Item the thirde daye of August 1619 receyved of Mr Stephane Kinge of London Executor of the last will of M^r Richard Nidd late of the Cittye of London Screvenor deceased CCCli., the which was by the said M^r Nidd given to the corporacion of Leicester to holde for three yeeres from the said thirde daye of August, and they, before the said five yeeres end are to purchase in fee simple lands and tenements of the yeerlie value of xvli. To and for the onlie proper use and behooffe of the poore people of Mountsorell in the Countye of Leicester CCCli.

Item receyved of William Savage Master of fence in part payment of a fine for a lease for xxi yeeres of the howsse in the Sowth gate late in Thomas Hallidaies occupacion for the use of Savages wife.

Guifts of wyne etc.

*Item paid for wyne and suger given to one Mr White heire to that noble Knight of famous memorie Sir Thomas White Knight decessed sometyme Maior of the Citye of London whose liberall guifts were such, soe greate and soe manye, that att this daye most Cyties and Corporacions of England are much inriched thereby. Whereof this Borough of Leicester for theise tenne yeeres paste everie fiveth yeere have receyved xl*l*. to bee frellie lent withoute interest for nyne yeeres together to younge trademen in Leicester. iijs. iiijd.*

Item given to a Companye of playors called the children of the Revells whoe weare not suffered to playe xs.

*Item paid for a potle of wyne given to the said Mr Chamberlin Norice and his wife att the sealinge of his deede of annuytie of xl*l*. per annum for ever which hee hath given towards the better mayntenance of a preacher att S. Nicolas Church in Leicester of vi*l*. to him yeerelie, and the other vi*l*. to the use of the poore people in tholde hospitall, and other poore in Leicester ijs.*

Item paide for one gallon of sacke, one gallon of clarett wyne one gallon of white wyne and two pounds of suger given to the right honorable the Marquis Hambleton and the right Honorable the lorde Chamberlain beinge then in Leicester and ridinge post out of Scotland to the Courte att Warwick then xijs. viijd.

Item given to the two harrolds of armes that came to Leicester with a Commission under the greate [seal] of England to viewe the towne armes and for the entringe of the armes and Seales in there booke of entries both this Borough and the Countie with other places. ijli. vs.

*Item given to one other Companye of playors called the Children of the Revells who had speciall lycense to playe ii*l*.*

*Item paid for one silver bason wayinge fortie one ounces and three quarters of an ounce at vs. viijd. the ounce cometh to 11*l*. 16s. 9d. and for settinge the armes and for burnyshinge of itt vs., so in the wholl 12*l*. 1s. 9d. Which was given by the Corporacion to the right honorable Sir Homfrey Maye Knight Chauncellor of his highnes duchie of Lancaster to manifest there true affection to his honor beinge newelie come to his place xiil. is. ix*d*.*

Fees etc.

Item paid to Mr Receyvor for portage monye due to him upon the receipt of the *xli.* for the head usher of the Grammor Schoole in Leicester and to Mr Awditor and Receyvor for a debentor an ij Acquitances (?) and to the Butler and porter of the Castell of Leicester per annum. *xs. ijd.*

Item given to Mistris Stanley the convert towards the payment of her debte she ought to Bartholomewe Lynsey for dyat and lodginge in the tyme of her beinge in prison. *vs.*

Item paid for watchinge the Schoole howsse for to prevent the Scholers from shuttinge out there Masters untymelie and from the breakinge the schoole howse wyndowes *ijs. viijd.*

Item given to the said Mistris Stanley the convert att her last lose and farewell out of tholde hospitall beinge verie troublesome there *xs.*

Item paid to foure laboringe men for scowringe the watchinge place in the Sowth gate neire the Armytage howse *xx?*

Item paid to Henrie Watts whiche hee had laide out in the buildinge of two little howses upon parte of the Grounde belonginge to the howse of correction for such poore people as the Towne shall appoyn to dwell therein from tyme to tyme *iiijli. vijs.*

Item given to the ringers att the Lorde Marquis Hambleton and the Lorde Chamberlins riding post through the Towne *vijd.*

Item pd for a silver sinckfoyle for William Choyses coate *vijjs.*

Item whereas heretofore sithence the Corporacion have been Masters of thospitall of the holie Trinitie in ye Newarke of Leicester the Kinges Maiestie hath given yeerlie *iiijli.* towards the repaire of the saide hospitall, and this yeere but onlie *ijli.* And to supplie that want (for this yeere) paid for the repaires of the said howse *ijli.*

[Total of receipts and expenditure not given.]

CCIX. Examination before Magistrates

Hall Papers VI, No. 499. [May 2, 1620.] William Noone did yesternight with verie unsevill speeches abuse Mr Nicholas Gilliott in charging him with iniustice sayinge he would sett men in the stocks and would not nor durst not iustifie the same. and in A proud and sawsie manner rayled against him and then did followe Mr Gilliott from the North gate up the streeete towards All Saintcs Church that caused manie people to follow him usinge manye disgracefull speeches

against the government of the Magistrates in Leicester that Noone his behaviour was such as that Mr Gilliott was force to send him to ward.

[No one bound to appear at next Sessions.]

CCX. Letter from Lord Huntingdon

Hall Papers VI, No. 486. [June 19, 1620.] * * Upon receipt of my letters I am to pray and require you to give notice to all the Gentlemen and other persons of the Laietie within the Corporacion that either by your owne certain knowledge iudgment or esteeme of their neighbours are accounted any manner way either in lands or goods to be worth forty pounds or more That [ye] doe [cause] them to meeete me at the Common Hall upon fryday the four[*illegible*] of July by eight of the clocke in the morning At th[*illegible*] same tyme to signifie and sett downe what sommes of mon[ie] each of them in particuler will freely and voluntarily contribute towards [the] mayntenance of the safetie of the Kinge our Soveraigns most excellent sonne in lawe and her highnes the Lady Elizabeth his Maties daughter and their princely issue against their Adversaries as divers both Countryes Citties and Burrow Townes of th[is] his Maties Realme of England have alreadie very plentifull[y] and [with] readiness manifested their affections What mo[*illegible*] [*illegible*] to induce to this contribution (God willinge) shalbe [*illegible*] amply made knowne unto you And soe willing you to send to my house at Donnington * * a perfect Booke or liste in wryting of the names of all such person within the Burrowe * * I rest.

Your very loving friend
Huntingdon.

CCXI. Letter addressed to the Mayor and Justices

Hall Papers VI, No. 524. [July 5, 1620.] * * It hath pleased the King to trust us in the names of Robert Dixon and William Almand gent with a Grant of forfeited Recognisances of Alehouse keepers reserving unto himselfe a cleere moitie. In recovery whereof as it is our bounden duties to deale truly with his Matie soe wee desire that all lenitie and faire dealinge may be used that the Subiecte may not have iust cause to thinke himselfe oppressed by undergoing soe greate

a losse by such his forfeiture therebee some of those Alehouse keepers (though very fewe) that pretend they give the measure that Lawe proscribeth * * and say they doe indeavor to keepe good order in their houses.

[They propose only to deal with the notoriously bad Alehousekeepers.]

Yet his highnes will not believe that any worthie person especially being a Magistrate trusted with the publique weale, should so much as mutter against the extreamest prosecution his Mat^e is pleased to lay upon such Alehousekeepers to whom it is best knowne that to worke reformacion there is noe other way so proper as to presse upon the recoverie of their forfeitures, as due unto his highnes from them as is any forfeiture to a private man.

And because it is almost as impossible as unfitt to drawe the multitude of Alehousekeepers to the Cittie of London, which in al other cases of forfeitures to his Mat^e is usual, wee have thought of the nominacion of Committees * * * And for that his Mat^e would not have those his Subiects that dwell in remote parts to be overtravelled by coming to London * * hee hath given order to us the Patentees to appoint Committees * * * Wee accordingly with the consent of the right honorable the Lord Chiese Justice have nomynated you or any 4. 3 or 2 of you as Committees whereof the said Mr Spurling or Mr Bellamy to be one unto whose hands * * the money payable * * may be delivered.

CCXII. “*The Complaynt of Gilbert Smyth of Swythland mynister against Christopher Monke*”

Hall Papers VI, No. 523. [July 26, 1620.] Hee hath publiquely slanndered and disgraced me by peticion to the Kings Maiestie.

Before the honourable Judges of this Circuit.

Before the Worshipfull Sir Woolstane Dixie and Mr Staresmore Justices.

Before Mr Maior of Leicester and his Bretherne in Open Court.

Att Swythland where I dwell att Mountsorel.

Att Leicester att London and in all places where he passed.

Sayeing that I am a Connier [dissembler] and have forsaken the true God.

That I am a Sorcerer and the meanes of the breakinge of his wifes Arme and of his sonns cuttinge of his owne throat.

That I and my three sonns are fellons and periured hee hath thereby much disgraced the word of God in my mouth.

Hee hath adventured my lyfe goods and reputacion thereby and the undoinge of my wife and famylie which lyve by my breath.

CCXIII. Petition of Christopher Moncke to the King

Hall Papers VI, No. 490. [July, 1620.]

[Complains he has made many efforts to get some crime cleared up and has been put off by various great men.]

Most humbly shewinge The premisses considered the faithful Justices of the County of Leicester dare not deale with Gilbert Smyth his approved pilfery, foreknowne periury, suspected sorcery and murther least money and freinds should lull the Judges asleepe as in the County of Darby they have beene and laughed to scorne by the favorites thereof: for except Judge Winch Sir Randall Crewe and Mr William Howe be brought before your highnes your late Master of Requests dare not rightly informe your Mat^e the right of this Cryme that the examinacion and confessions in the Records will manifest the truth of the Complaint that the Cause was never rightly heard: the petitioner hath exhibited iiiij peticions to your highnes already and hath not refference to any of them

His humble desire is that theis six Justices of the peace hereunder named, three of Darbyshire and three of Leicestershire with the right honorable the Earle of Huntingdon to be assistant to them may have the hearing of the cause for punishment on one side

Sir Richard Harper Kt.	}	Darbyshire.
Sir John Bentley Kt.		
John Bulloch Esq.		
Sir Wolston Dixie Kt.	}	Leicestershire.
Francis Staresmore Eq.		
Thomas Bavington Esq.		

CCXIV. Chamberlains' Accounts. 1619-20

Newe Rents.

Item received of Henry Watts for one wholl yeeres rente of one of the twoe little newe howses adioyninge to the howse of correction vs.

Fees Wages etc.

Item payde the head Usher and under usher of the Grammor Schoole for teaching the schollers to write beinge the guift of Mistris Dorothy Baker. *xxs.*

Item payde for a payre of goulde waights for the Towne. *vis. viiid.*

Item payde to Mr Blount for bringing turves for the butts in Butt Closse *xs.*

Item payde to Mr Maior for monye he layde downe to make the some of fyve poundes which was sente to the Lord Hubbord. *xiiii.s.*

Item payde to William Sparkes for haveinge the wilde woman out of the Towne for twoe dayes and for her charges. *iijs. vid.*

Item payde to Choyte for whippinge her and to Henry Watts for keepinge sixe dayes. *is. xd.*

Guifts to the Playors.

Item given to the playors that shewed Etalion Motion *xs.*

Item given to Swynnerton and his Companye of playors. *ili.*

Item given to Terry and his Companye of playors haveing large authoritie.

[Total Receipts	620(?)	16.	5.
,, Payments	417.	10.	5.
Soe due to the Towne	203.	6.	0.
Decays etc.	15.	11.	1.
So due to chamber of Towne upon the foote of them accompts	£187. 14. 5.]		

CCXV. *Letter of Sir W^m Hericke on the Bohemian question*

Hall Papers VII, No. 65. [June, 1621.] * * I cannot but with grait Joye let you know that with one voice the hole howse did upon [Monday] the 4th of this present maik a declaration to ye Kinge and so to ye world, that for the good of his Maiesties his children and oure trewe religion which wee constantly professe wee will spend oure livfes oure goodes and lyve and die in so Just a warr and desiers his Maiestie not to defer it to lonnge it is such a reioysinge to all true affected in religion and such a blowe to all recusaunts and remisse papist as never were a greater, the declaration whereof, in our very woords I have heare in Closed sent yow. I delivered in your peticcion concerninge the abewse in the execusion of the office of [purveying?], it is a generall grevannce all England over but as yet ther is no time for the regulatinge of yt, at our nexte recessse I hope wee shale do

some thinge, ther is 95 publick bills almost profitted for ye good of the Commonwelth and his Maiestie still tells us that if it be not our faulthe he will maik it the happiste Parlement ever was. God graunt it I am sewer it will not be oure fault Che Sara^Sara I receved a Letter from my Cozen Gillet Mr Ellis and others that had laid owte manny to be staplers. I cannot do them no good ye Parlement hath found it a grevannce to ye Commonwelth and both in ye Creation and execusion against Lawe.

**CCXVI. Remembrances for Justices to "conferr with the
Maior of the Towne of Leicester"**

Hall Papers VII, No. 107. [No date.] First by Credible informacion there be 8 score alehouses in the Towne.

Item there be so many Maulsters in the said Towne and the Newarke neare adioyninge that a great number leave their trade wherein they were bred and onely lyve by maultinge.

Item that by reason of the premisses the poore resorting to the markett there to buy bred corne for their releife be not suffered to have any.

Item that within 2 or 3 markett dayes last the poore in respect of the said wrongs had allmost made a mutinye against some townsmen maulsters that did buy corne in the markett and hindered the said poore from buyinge bread corne.

Item they doe ingrosse corne in this towne by buyinge tythes and mens Crops and Convert the same into Mault to be sould againe for their best benifitt and bringe no corne into the markett neyther Convert the same corne into mault for their own use but sell the same to badgers and trannters contrary to Lawe.

Item some of the preachers of this Towne have beene complayned unto of the said abuses, hurtinge the poore and augmentinge the price of Corne and have bene desired to preach against the wrongedoers in this behalfe.

Item without doubt the like wronge is done in other markett Townes within this County.

Item Corne is not brought into the markett by such as have great store but kept out of the markett to thend to increase the price thereof and then onely to sell the same when the markett is not furnished with Corne for the Comon use of the people.

Item by Credible informacion there is a Killne builded neare to the

hospitall of Mr Wigston and the said hospitall converted to a house of Maultinge with annoyance to yt house and all yt live about it.

[Hall Papers VII, No. 111. [No date.] The names of the Maulsters in Leicester.

M ^r Thomas Parker	Anthony Hewytt
Julye Billers	Robert Warburton
Paule Abney	Thomas Tompson
M ^r George Wadland	M ^r Thomas Erickie
Dannett Abney	M ^{rs} Lannder
George Harteshorne	John Swane
Thomas Peale	John Turlington
William Hedley	M ^r Fr Hodges
M ^r William Clarke	M ^r Thomas Brooks
William Speechley	M ^r William Sherman
Widowe Hedley	M ^r John Blount]

CCXVII. *Meeting of the Mayor and the Twenty Four*

Hall Papers VII, No. 99. [1621-22.] Imprimis yt is agreed that if Mr Walter Rudinge doe sett vj men of worke for the mendinge of the high wayes beyone the Sore, the Towne shall paye them a weeks wages in parte of the xxli. promised towards the mending of the sayd high wayes. And that the Towne shall send forth stone gatherers for that pupose. M^r Erickes ward and M^r Ludlams ward to goe of ffriday next.

CCXVIII. *Letter concerning a destitute child*

Hall Papers VII, No. 56. [May 19, 1622.] Mr Maior I understand that there is one Francis Hill entartayned in your Citty who professeth Musick and the bringing upp of Children in that Art. Hee hath left a charge upon the parish of Bigby in this parte of Lincoln sheere of a poore impotent childe of six yeares of age or thereabouts and though itt were begotten in wedlock and of a carefull mother who is deceased, yett he sheweth himself wholy careless in providing for itt. Wherefore the Inhabitants of the aforesaid parish are become Sutors unto mee for their releife and would have sent the child from constable to constable to the father. I have thought that coarse inconvenient for the child's safety and therefore doe hereby intreate that yourselfe and your brethren would please to call the saide Francis Hill before you, and make stay both of himselfe and parte of his meanes untill he shall take some certain course as well for the releife and

maintenance of his saide childe for the time to come as also to satifffize [satisfy] the towne for the charges they have beene att for the time past. Herein you shall doe a charitable Act Thus expecting your answer concerninge the premisses I bidd you kindely farewell. From Brocklesby this 19th of May 1622

Your verie Loving freind

William Pelham.

CCXIX. *Meeting of Common Hall*

Hall Papers VII, No. 98. [May 24, 1622.] It is agreed that what money shall be lent to the Towne to be ymployed to buy Corne for the better provision of the poore, shall be repayd at Michelmas next, and if any losse be by the imployment of the same money the same to be made good forth of the Chamber of the Towne.

The names of such as doe lend money for that use:

M ^r Maior xlii.	M ^r William Chamberlyn vii.
M ^r John Hericke xli.	Paule Abney vii.
M ^r John Norris xxli.	Hughe Watts vii.
M ^r James Ellis xli.	John Wilcocks in Come xli.
M ^r William Billers xli.	John Norris Jun vii.
M ^r Nurse vii.	Robert Stokes iijli.
M ^r Gillott vii	William Twigden vii.
M ^r Parker vii.	Thomas Gilbert vii.
M ^r Roger Coates xli.	William Speechley vii.
M ^r Robert Millner vii.	William Ward vii.
	William Henshaw vii.

It is agreed that M^r Maior and the breetheren or the greater number of them shall appoynt 2 or more to have the bestowinge of the sayd moneys in Corne, and the sellinge forth of the same.

And it is agreed that the xijli. xs. for Coles shall be made up xxli. forth of the Chamber of the Towne and that to be yearely imployed for bringinge of Coles in somer to be sould to the poore in winter by the Chamberlyns for the tyme beinge And if any losse be thereby the Chamberlyns to beare the same and what profit shall thereby arise to Come and be imployed to the increase of the sayd stocke for Coles. the price to be sett by M^r Maior and the Justices at Michaelmas yearely.

CCXX. Abstract of License in Mortmain of James I

[June 26, 1622. Letters Patent of James I. Affecting the public advantage of the Burgesses and Inhabitants of the Borough of Leicester, and in order that the Mayor, Bailiffs and Burgesses and their successors may be the better able to support the charges and expenses of the Borough grant to the Mayor, Bailiffs and Burgesses license to acquire and receive manors, lands tithes etc. or other hereditaments whatsoever within the realm of England, or elsewhere within the Kings domains, from the King or any others, which are not held of the King immediately in chief or by Knight Service, or which are not held of others by Knight Service, not exceeding the yearly value of £200 notwithstanding the Statute of Mortmain.]

CCXXI. Meeting of the Mayor and Justices

Hall Papers VII, No. 92. [Oct. 18, 1622.] A meetinge of M^r Maior and the Justices the xviiith day of October 1622 ffor the avoydinge of strangers cominge to inhabite in the Towne, and like to be Chargable, for placinge such in Service as are fitt to serve and for settinge the poore on worke.

Mr Parkers Ward

John Garnham, Whittawer a stranger, hath soierned at Robert Johnsons, with his wife about halfe a yeare * * Johnson is to avoyde him within a weeke.

Robert Greene, Laborer a stranger havinge a wife and a child dwelt lately in the Vicarage, and now in a house of Jane Poyner widowe * * he is to departe within a moneth.

A Miller servant to Mr Cotes a stranger dwellinge in a house of George Buntinge.

Margarett Atkyn wife of Thomas Atkyn and her sonne and daughter Complayninge that they want meanes to sett themselves to worke, are to have worke such as they can best doe from Henry Watts, upon such rates and wages as he geves to others.

Mr Maiors Ward * *

Henry Parker late of Peatlyne, intends to marrie a widowe in the Senvye gate, hath promised not to marry her untill he have provided habitacion for himselfe and her in the Countrie.

Agnes Jesse daughter of Clement Jesse to goe to service before Martlemas.

CCXXII. *Bishop of Lincoln's orders in restraint of trade*

Hall Papers VII, No. 108. [Oct. 19, 1622.] Rates for the Restrayninge of the Immoderate and excessive gayne taken by Butchers, Inholders, Hostlers, Bakers, Poulters, Cookees and other sellers of Victuall within the County aforesayde, accordinge to the direccion of Letters from the right Reverend father in God John Lord Bishopp of Lincolne Lorde Keeper of the greate Seale of England, made and agreed upon att Leicester the xixth of October 1622.

In primis to Restraine all maulsters from buyinge of Barley or any other grayne to Mault or sell againe untill Barley be sould in Leicester markett att ijs. vjd. the strike or under (bona fide) except such as have barley of their owne growinge.

Item if any person have alreadie bought any Corne growinge the same buyer or buyers shall furnish the markett therewith and not mault any parte thereof but for his or their owne spendinge, and not sell any of the same to Trantors or badgers or at home, other then to the poore of the parish and att such rates as the Justices of the Peace shall thinke meete respecting att what price the same was bought.

Item that noe person buy any bread corne or Mault but in the open Markett onely the poore of every parish excepted and that onely for their necessarie spendinge, and not by way of Ingrossinge or to sell the same agayne.

Item that noe person or persons whatsoever feede any sheepe or swyne with pease and beanies during this present yeare, save only for the provison of his or their owne howse.

Item that Butchers for everie shillinge by them disbursed for the buyinge of flesh and so in proporcione shall not gaine above id. in ye shillinge.

Item that noe Inholder or horstler doe take of his guest for a strike of provinder and soe in proporcione for gayne vid. in the strike.

Item that everie halfpenny bottell of hay soulde or uttered by any Inholder or hostler shall weigh ii pounds.

Item that noe Inholder or hostler take above iijd. the day for hey for one horse, and soe likewise for a nighte and for day and nighte vid.

Item for grass iiijd. day and night.

Item that Bakers keepe the Assize accordinge to the severall statutes and the books of Assize to that end published.

Item that Poulters or any other retayler of any kinde of Victuall for everie shillinge laye out doe not take above the some of id. gayne.

Item that all brewers and other sellers and Retaylers of beere doe observe to keepe the Assize accordinge to the true intent of the Statutes made in that behalfe.

Item that all Inholders, Victuallers, Cookes and other parsons that dresse and sell victualls in their howses, doe sell the same att moderate prices havinge respect of the tyme.

Item it is agreed that the Statutes made for the punishment of Rouges, Begers, Vagabonds, and Sturdie Beggers shall forthwith be putt in due execution and that an accompt be made monethlye by the Justices of peace i[n] their severall divisions and of the peticie Constables within the same touching the discharge of their offices concerninge the said Statutes.

CCXXIII. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers VII, No. 145. [Feb. 13, 1622/3.] William Headley hath now submitted himselfe to Mr Maior and the hall what he shall further paye for his freedome for that it doth not appeare that his father was a freeman. It is agreed that he make the xs. which he payd fyve Marks and shall pay the same to the old Chamberlyns presently.

It is also agreed that if the Chamberlyns doe make any stranger free without the consent of the Common Hall that they to paye xxli. or such money as the hall shall appoynt.

That the ls. delyvered to Mr Nurse and Mr Abney towards the repayre of the highe wayes beyond the Westbridge shall remayne and be made up xxli., if the Countrie ioyne and the worke goe forward.

CCXXIV. *Disputes concerning land in Southfield*

Hall Papers VII, No. 97. [No date, probably 1622.] Grevances complayned of by Mr Paul Abney and others in the South ffeilds ffor certayn ground used for a gardyn adioyninge to the hermitage held by Mr Wadlands tenant, which formerly was Common ground. This Mr Wadland doth disclayme ffor a peece of ground over against Mr Nurse his mill which hath been used with the mill, and is now enioyed by Mr Wadland.

A lane leadinge into Burgess meadow and not usefull.

An ancient balke plowed up betwixt 2 lands of Paule Abneys this side Rowdicks.

Another balke which Mr Wadland and Mr Abney plowed up on the same furlonge.

Another balke which Mr Mabbes and Mr Abney shotinge upon Rowdyke halfe plowed away.

Another of the same furlonge Mr Wadland [illegible] South.

Another of the same Mr Freeman Thomas Swane.

Another of the same Mr Mabbes Mr Abney.

Another above that a hanginge balke Burgeland South.

Mr Mabbes north.

A balke next Mr Cottons land plowed away by Camlyn.

A balke quite plowed away Mr Wadland Mr Abney at further end of new dyke.

All the leyes on Senve hill plowed up by Mr Mabbes Mr Abney Thomas Swane and others 12 or 14 acres.

A balke shotinge on Knighton Meare Mr Wadland Thomas Swanne plowed awaye.

Mr Mabbes hath plowed up 3 leyes at windmill hill and hath straitned the way by a dytch.

Mr Mabbes hath plowed up a ley Shotinge into Knighton Slade.

Mr Palmer one other there.

5 leyes plowed up by Paul Abney beyond Knighton Slade 2 Mr Freemans 3 Jo. [illegible].

[illegible] Mr Roger Coates for making a way from the Windmill to Knighton.

This yielded One land of my lord Spencers in tenure of Mr Wadland plowed too farr beyonde Knighton Slade.

That there was a broad balke at pease well betwixt the land of the Towne and Mr Wadland, and a banke digged and layd to Mr Wadlands land which [we are] persuaded was the freehold of the Towne.

Paule Abney holdeth in tillage 7 yards at peasewell first plowed up by Mr Docter Chippingdale.

A balke plowed away halfe and more neare peasewell betwixt Thomas Swane and Mr Palmer.

This yielded A balke shotinge on Cleypitts plowed allmost all awaye by Mr Wadland.

The greene sword at the end of Mr Wadlands 2 lands at Cleypitts he discleymith.

A balke betwixt the wayes plowed away in parte Mr M[abbes] Mr Abney.

Mr Wadland to have the gardyne adioyninge to the Armitage, and in Consideracion thereof he is to mayntayne the Cawsey ioyninge to it as it now is.

CCXXV. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1621-22**Newe rents.*

Item receyved of Mr George Wadland for the rent of certayne lands in the South feilds lately purchased by the towne from the Lord Spencer due att Michaelmas laste for one halfe yeare then ended. xxxs.

Other receipts for freemen.

*Item of William Hedley third sonne of William Hedley late of this borough horsegelder for his freedome iij*l*. vi*s*. viij*d*.*

*Item receyved of Mr Bolyvant for his wholl yeaeres rente endinge at Michelmas 1622 of the fines and amercyments in the Courte. xxs.
[Payments £814. 14. 6.]*

Fees etc.

*Item paid Mr Wadland for the chardges of the lycense of Mortmaine procured for the purchasing of lands by the towne to the value of CC*l*. per annum. xl*ij*. xii*s*.*

*[Payments to players etc. The Prince's 30*l*. Queen Anne her Servants Fortune Players "having the Kinges broad seale to their warrant." Company of Players authorised by Lord Chamberlain Vincent and his Company.]*

CCXXVI. *Examination before Magistrates*

Hall Papers VII, No. 167. [March 31, 1623.] The sayd examineth beinge demanded where he had the Bible which he sould upon Saterday last unto a Maide at M^r Docter Chippingdales sayth that he found the same in the Churchyard at St Maries in Leicester, where there was a visitacion held that day, and had been a sermon And being demanded what he sould it for, sayth he sould it for iijs. vijd.

[This man was committed to House of Correction.]

CCXXVII. *Meeting of Mayor etc. to arrange public fast*

Hall Papers VII, No. 593. [July 15, 1623.] It is thought fit and soe agreed that there shalbe publique praiers and divine service at everie severall churche within the Towne to beginne betwixt eight and nine of the clocke in the forenoone at two in the afternoone and that there shalbe one sermon at one Church only everie Wednesdaie accordinge to his Maiesties late proclamation and booke of orders and that for that daie all trading be forborne and noe frequentinge of Taverns and Alehouses and that there be two at the least appoynted in everie parish to looke to such disorders.

CCXXVIII. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers VII, No. 230. [Sept. 16, 1623.] Item that the money which is loste forth of the stocke in the provision of Corne for the poore beinge Three Poundes shalbe made upp by the Chamberlines And the *xli.* given by Sir William Curtayne shall remayne in the Chamberlines hands for the tyme beinge as the Lotterye money doth they payinge xiijs. iiijd. yearlye to the use of the Poore of the Towne to be distributed in breade upon [blank] yearlye untill other order shalbe taken therein.

Hall Papers VII, No. 229. [? 1623.] Layd out for Corne 1623.
522. 7. 1.

Received for corne. 504. 10. 2.

Lost in the price of the corne bought. 18. 16. 7.

The number of quarters of corne sold att the hall was 389 quarters vj strikes.

The account of M^r Frauncis Churchman and M^r William Davie of the Corne sould to the poore this yeere by small measures 4d. in the strike under the markett.

CCXXIX. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers VII, No. 224. [S^t Math. 1623.] At this Common Hall yt is Ordered that Mr Thomas Nixe shall have foure Pounds per Annum during his life to be payd quarterlie forth of the Chamber of the Towne to begin at Michelmas next and to be then payd by the ould Chamberlines and afterwards by the Chamberlines for the tyme beinge for and towards his better mayntenance, but this guiste not intended to be anye example for others to sue for the like hereafter.

[Hall Papers VII, No. 223. M^r Nixe's petition for relief. "Thomas Nixe an old and Anncent neighbour amonngst you; who having receaved great losse and hindement as well by having his howse two tymes visited by God his visitacion, and many great payments for Suertyship and other Losses were forced by necessity to pawne and sell his howse and goodes."]

CCXXX. *Meeting of Commissioners*

Hall Papers VII, No. 220. [Sept. 26, 1623.] At this meeting it is agreed that M^r Arthure Clarke shall have and hould as tenant at will from yeare to yeare from Michelmas next all the leyes which doe belonige to the Towne lyinge on the horse fayre; payinge xx.s. per annum

at 2 usuall feasts, And that there shall be a Convenyant place sett forth for a bowling place, and the rest to be free and open for such uses as heretofore it hath been.

CCXXXI. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers VII, No. 177. [1622-23.] It is ordered and agreed at this assembly that no freeman Townsman or fforrenar shall reeave or take [into any] house or parte of any house within this Burrough any Tennant being a forrinar or shall erect or build [illegible] or house for any Tennant being either forrener or Townesman, except it be with the allowance and liking of the [Maior] and Justices of the Towne of Leicester and the Aldermen of the warde for the time beinge under their hands and the seal [of the] Corporacion of Leicester. And if any Landlord Lease or Owner of any tenement shall receave any Tennant or erect [a house] contrary to this Order, then he or they shall forfeite for every Tennant so receaved or house builte contrary to this [order] vli. of lawfull money of England to be levyed of his or their goods and Chattels by way of distress and [illegible] or by accion of debt. And the Tennant so receaved shall likewise forfeite xxs. of like money for every moneth [he] continew or dwell in any such house or Tenement within the same Borough the same to be levyed by distress [illegible] of the goods and Chattels of every such Tennant.

* * *

Item it is ordered that no Inhabitant of the sayd Borough shall take any child or children [illegible] to keepe or to sett on worke without the consent of the Maior and Aldermen of the warde [illegible] to forfeite to the sayd Maior Bayliffes xls. to be levyed as aforesayd to the use of [illegible].

Item that none suffer their child or children Servant or Servants to goe a beggning within the [borough or town] upon paine to undergoe such paine and punishment as the Maior and Justices for the time being shall appoint.

Item it is agreed that the xli. given by Sir William Curtaine and the money given by Mr Evington [shall be] imployed for a stocke to set the poore on worke and to be made up C*li.* forth of the Chamber [illegible] if there be cause.

Item it is agreed that all such as are free of Leicester and dwell forth of the Towne shalbe taxed with the Tow[nsmen in] all chardges

in defense of the libertyes, and if they refuse to paye such taxacion, to be disffranchised and not have any benefitt of the freedome of the Towne.

Item it is agreed that if any Alderman or Constable of any ward within this Burrough doe offend Contrary to an order made in the tyme of the Maioraltie of Mr Thomas Parker concerning the keeping forth of Straungers. That the Penaltye and penaltyses sett upon them shalbe levyed by distress and sale of goods of the partie offending.

CCXXXII. Before the Mayor and Justices

Hall Papers VII, No. 228. [18 September, 1623.] It is consented that Mr John Parker may receive George Alcocke to be tennant unto his house in Leicester late Mr Thomas Parkers notwithstandinge the late order.

CCXXXIII. Examination before Magistrates

Hall Papers VII, No. 255. [Nov. 14, 1623.] The sayd examineth beinge demaunded wheather he hath not soould any paper notes whereby he doth pretend to cure the crampe whereof he hath given a Coppie to Mr Maior doth confesse that he hath soould divers of them for groates and six pence a peece unto certaine persons in this towne of Leicester.

CCXXXIV. Apprentice admitted to Company of Weavers

Hall Papers VII, No. 246. [Nov. 22, 1623.] William Harrison apprentice to Laurence Fletcher weavor sworne of the Company of weavours

not free of the Towne.

CCXXXV. Information laid before the Mayor

Hall Papers VII, No. 261. [Dec. 12, 1623.] [Order to levy taxes for repair of Common Well by distress.] William Tallis doth informe Mr Maior that there was above xx horse loads of barley brought to Mr George Wadlands in the Newarke and there unloaden and receyved and payd for by Mr Wadland, which was bought this day in the markett in Leicester.

John Hewood doth allso informe that there was this day brought to the house of George Alcocke in Leicester 7 quarters of barley or neare thereabouts and was there left and unloaden and that the same was brought forth of the markett of Leicester.

Anthony Spencer doth likewise informe that he saw xxij horses come unloaden forth of M^r Julye Billers his house this day, which the man that brought the horses Confest were leaden with barley, and that he sawe vj horse loade more brought in, and was tould by neighbours that there had Comen in divers horse loads more this day.

John Noone doth affirme that Anthony Hewytt bought in the markett at Leicester the xxth of December xx strikes of barley to Convert into Mault.

CCXXXVI. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers VII, No. 251. [Nov. 28, 1623.] *Item* yt is agreed that noe man shall hereafter erecte or builde any Kilne within the Borough of [Leicester] unless the same bee xxx^{tie} elles distant from any dwellinge house, upon paine of Tenn pounds for everie [Kilne] and of vjs. viijd. for everie tyme the same or any such other allredie built is used to be levied by distress and sale of the parties goods or by accion of debt.

Item yt is agreed that everie one of the Companie of the xxiiij^{ti} shall have a deycent gowne with [*illegible*] sleeves and garded with velvet and shall weare the same everie Saboth daie to theire owne parish Church in the forenoone upon paine of xijd. for everie defaulte to be levied by the Churchwardens or Collectors or Constable of the Warde by distress and Sale of the parties goods or by accion of debt.

Item yt is agreed that M^r Chettle shall have xxs. quarterly duringe the Townes pleasure forth of the Chamber of the Towne to beginne at St Thomas daie next accordinge to his peticion.

CCXXXVII. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1622-23*

Fees, wages and other things.

- *Item* paid towards the mending of the highwayes in Braunston gate and Doveland lane xl*i*.

Item payd to Mr Churchman and to Mr Davye which was loste in the price of Corne at the Woolhall and which made up the xl*i*. given by Sir William Curtayne iij*li*.

Item payd to Mr William Davie for his paynes takeing aboute measuringe Corne for the poore at the Woolhall xs.

[The Prince's players, Lord Dudley's, Queen Anne's, Ladie Elizabeth's and the Master of the Revells'.]

Item given to a Messenger that brought a proclamation the sixe and twenty daye of Aprill concerninge the regestringe of Knights. ijs.

CCXXXVIII. *Meeting of Commissioners*

Hall Papers VII, No. 355. [May 28, 1624.] It is thought fitt that an order be made at the next Common Hall that non of the Grange landes shall be lett to any but onely to freemen of the Towne and such as reside within the Towne and Mayntaine a familie and shall keepe a Teame upon the same land.

CCXXXIX. *Letter concerning the lease of Gainsborough*

Hall Papers VII, No. 364. [June 3, 1624.] Right Honorable * * May it please your honor, we did the last terme employ Mr Wadland to solicite your honor about the renewinge of 2 leases which we hould from the Duchie, wherein we entreat your honors favor assuringe your honor that there is scarse so much rent made of them as is payd to the Kinge, for Gainsborow, the lower parte of it was sometime the Towne prison, and now discontynued and not used and the upper parte is onely employed for the Maior and Justices to be in upon the markett dayes for his Maiesties service beinge a place Convenyent for the oversight and government of the markett and noe profitte thereof and for the shopes dyvers of them, (by reason they stood in undecent and unfitt places) are pulled downe and the rest have lately bene verie ruinose and noe way useful but onely on the markett day, yet his Maiesties rent constantly payd by the Towne Therefore we hope a verie small or noe fine will give satisfaccion herein consideringe the greatness of the rent which was improved upon the last lease taken. So leavinge the premisses to your honors honorable Consideracion * *

[To Sir Humfrey Maye.]

CCXL. *Resolutions of Common Hall*

Hall Papers VII, No. 366. [June 5, 1624.] *Imprimis* yt is agreed that the xlviijli. given by Mr Evington for the use of the poor of Leicester ten pounds given by Sir William Curtaine, the xxli. given by the Masters of the Lotterye and xxli. by Mistris Turvill shall be made up Cli. forth of the Chamber of the Towne.

Item yt is agreed that the Commissioners shall have power to buy and purchase or take by lease lands and tenements for the use of the Towne as they have to make Leases and selle in fee farme.

Item yt is agreed, that John Burgeland shall be made free painge xxss. to the Chamberlines.

[This man is one of those who is taking the Grange lands from Towne on lease.]

CCXLI. *Petition of Commoners concerning the Cow Pasture*

Hall Papers VII, No. 394. [No date.] To the Right Worshippful Maior etc.

Maye it please your Worship to understande That whereas it is crediblie thought, to be a Convenient thinge, necessarie and Commodious to the Corporacion of Leicester (without losse or hindrance to any) to Compasse and enlarge the high towne pasture from Christofer Suttons Close, unto Syverne bridge. To which end and purpose divers Inhabitants have heretofore willingly given their benevolences: whereunto at that tyme; a generall Consent was partly graunted. Now for renewing and better effectinge the former Consent (with your Worships good favour, and without offence) wee your poore petitioners, whose handes are hereunto subscribed, humblie intreat your worships and the Commissioners ayde and assystance therein: That with your assents the said Cow pasture may be soe enlarged and Compassed, to the generall benefitt of the poorer sorte, which in all mens iudgement is lawfull and requisite and noe hurte or damage to any pryuate man. Thus submitting our selves to your godlie Consideracions; wee humblie praye for your Worships long preservacion.

Barnabey Turvil

The mark of John Wood

Roger Tomkinson

John Atton

Edward Peart.

[There are many other signatures some of which are illegible.]

CCXLII. *Meeting of Commissioners*

Hall Papers VII, No. 386. [? July, 1624.] It is now agreed that the Towne shall geve my lord Gray viij*l*s**. per annum for the Castles Milles and his wind mill for xxi yeaeres and such fine as Can be agreed upon not exceedinge CClxxx*l*s**. My lord to pay the Kings Rent, and to geve good securitie for it and my Lord to sett them in sufficient repaire, and to find great tymber.

Item it is agreed by a generall Consent that all the stone meadowe and meadowe grounds belonginge to the Graunge shall be divided into xx equall parts, and everie yard land of the xx yard lands lyinge in the South feildes now to be lett to have an equall proporcion of meadowe as well Archers and Wightmans land as the ancient Grange land to be demised and used therewith.

CCXLIII. *Letter about the King's buck hounds*

Hall Papers VII, No. 420. [Aug. 1, 1624.] After my hartie commendacions

Wheras you are nowe to passe thorough the Counties of Leicester, Rutland, and Nottingham with his highnes hounds you are to take notice, that although theis Shires are in Composicion for his Maiesties housshould and stable yet there is no Composicion for hawkes, houndes hunts men horses nor horses to drawe the dogge wagon (as in some shires) beinge a service neither belonginge to house nor stable, Wherefore you are to use your Commission as in former tyme, wherein I knowe it will be pleasinge to his Maiestie that you use the Inhabitants Curteously so that it may be noe preuidice to your service

Your verie lovinge frend
Simon Harvey.

Kings Cliffe the 1 of August 1624.

To the Right Worshippful Sir Timothy Tirell Knight Master of the Princes Highnes pure Buck hounds and to the rest of his highnes huntmen and officers for his Carr: of hounds.

CCXLIV. *Meeting of Commissioners*

Hall Papers VII, No. 363. [Aug. 6, 1624.] At this meetinge Mr John Freeman did make this offer to Mr Maior and the Commissioners, that if he might nominate a sufficient man and a freeman to the lykinge of the Commissioners to be tennant to the Towne of the 3 yard lands which he houldeth in the South feildes, and he to have the same that then he will willingly leave the same three yard land.

It is agreed that Mr Paule Abney shall have his parte of meadowe upon the dividinge thereof, layd in those places where he hath planted Willowes and fences with what Convenience may be.

CCXLV. *Examination before Magistrates*

Hall Papers VII, No. 400. [Aug. 17, 1624.] Anne Garland * * being accused to use unlawful meanes to tell one Robert Roberts what was become of a peece of gould which he had lost, confesseth that at the request of one Sara Hall she did use a meanes by repeatinge parte of the fifteenth Psalme, and other words and prayers and a hollowe key to knowe who had the sayd gould for which she to find suerties to appeare at the next Sessions.

CCXLVI. *Meeting of Commissioners*

Hall Papers VII, No. 405. [Aug. 20, 1624.] It is agreed that Mr Wadland (for his paynes and good service done to the Towne in procuringe the inheritance of the Graunges from Sir William Smyth and otherwise) shall have a Lease of the land in the South feildes which was lately purchasshed [from] Lord Spencer, at iiij*l.* per annum and noe fine.

It is now agreed likewise that Mr Watts shall have vi*l.* abated [forth] of his fyne of xxv*l.* of the Goslinge Close towards the makinge of a sufficient mound about the sayd Close.

CCXLVII. *Resolutions of Common Hall*

Hall Papers VII, No. 419. [Sept. 3, 1624.] It is agreed at this tyme by a free and generall Consent that from henceforth the Maior of Leicester for the tyme beinge (over and above the xx marks per annum heretofore allowed him) shall have and receive the hospitall fee beinge xx marks per annum notwithstanding any former order and likewise the Rent of the Goslinge Croft demised to Mr Hugh Watts being xx marks per annum duringe his lease to be payd yearly to the Maior And for the 2 next yeares untill Mr Watts his Lease begine the sayd xx marks per annum to be payd forth of the Chamber of the Towne, at Candlemas and Lammas by equall parts and likewise the Rent duringe Mr Watts his lease to be payd at the same dayes.

CCXLVIII. *Meeting of the Mayor and Aldermen*

- Hall Papers VII, No. 447. [Oct. 23, 1624.] It is agreed that there shall be a meetinge of the Company of the xxiiij^{te} this afternoone at 4 of the Clocke for the Choosinge of a new Recorder Mr Seriant Harvey being called to be a Judge of the Court of Common Pleas.

CCXLIX. *The Beadle of Beggers*

Hall Papers VII, No. 478. [Nov. 27, 1624.] Thomas Atkins of St Margaretts parishe is appoynted to be Bedle of the Beggers in the stead of William Choise, and is to have the like allowance that Choise had.

CCL. *Examination before Magistrates*

Hall Papers VII, No. 285. [Dec. 3, 1624.] Hugh Watts of the Borouge of Leicester Belfounder and his wife doe affirme that upon Tewsday the 13 of this instant November Robert Stanford of Leicester Butcher came into his house about 9 of the clocke at night, and findinge them in the house sat downe by the fire and did aske what newes and they answeringe not any, he sayd there was 4 Lordes gone over out of England, and 2 of them were as dead as a stone and the rest were upon the busines and sayd doe they thinke to catch birds with Chaffe or an old horse with a furr bushe, And sayd Spindaloe is a brave Champyon stand to thy Coulors, And the sayd Stanford sayd that they were not papists but Katholickes and then the sayd Mr Watts sayd, we are Katholickes no (sayd the sayd Stanford) hereticks and you sweete mistris may be glad to creepe perhaps within this Twelmonth. And the sayd Mr Watts reprovinge him for his speeches, he sayd dyvers tymes I beseech God blesse Kinge James, what lyeth in my brest the world shall not knowe. And further they affirme that the sayd Stanford was much overcome with drinke when he came into their house.

Hall Papers VII, No. 487. [Dec. 3, 1624.] The sayd examineth (Robert Stanford) * * sayth he did (upon some speech there made) speake some words concerninge Spindeloe, and the lowe Countries, but what the wordes were he doth not remember, but sayth that at his going forth of the house he sayd severall tymes God blesse the Kinge and the prince and all that love them
[to appear at next Assises].

[In June the Privy Council had written stating that war had broken out between the United Provinces and the "Romish Catholique League" and ordering the Mayor and Burgessess to allow and encourage the enlistment of soldiers. Hall Papers VII, No. 403.]

CCLI. *Letter to Bp of Lincoln about Tamworth's gift*

Hall Papers VII, No. 505. [Jan. 29, 1624/5.] Right Honorable Whereas wee are certified that Christopher Tamworth late of Grayes Inne in the Countie of Middlesex Esquier deceased by his laste will and Testament * * hath given 200 marks to be by us imployed to purchase land to the yearlye value of xx nobles for the mayntenance of one to saye divine service in the Church of St Martins in Leicester as is appoynted in this same will which moneys wee understand are by

him Committed to your [honors] hands to be exposed for that use. Wee the Maior and Aldermen of the said Borough of Leicester have thought ytt our dueties to signifie unto your honor and the said Prebends That we with all thankfulnes doe accept of the same his guift and will (by Gods permission) see the same employed and bestowed accordinge to the said will and the trustee in us reposed Desiring that the same moneys may be delivered unto Thomas Chapman Esquier Counsellor at Lawe our Recorder and Mr George Wadland our Sollicitor or one of them Whom wee have appointed to attend your honor * * about this busines.

CCLII. *Meeting of Commissioners*

Hall Papers VII, No. 513. [Feb. 7, 1624/5.] This day was sealed and delyvered by Mr John Freake Francis Freake his sonne and heire apparent John Chester gent and Thomas Wootton an Indenture of bargaine and Sale of one barne and a Storehouse and foure Closes lyinge neare Leicester whereof one is called the Upper Pingle another the high feildes one other the Close before the barne and the fourth called the Close behind the barne which were lately in the tyme of Mr James Ellis his Maioraltie contracted for to be soould to the Towne And the Counterparte of the said Indenture was then sealed with the Common Seale of the sayd Corporacion, whereby the Corporacion hath Covenanted to paye the yearlye rent of $\text{xxii}.$ due and payable forth of the premisses and other lands of the sayd John Freake unto the Chaplyns and poore of the hospitall of William Wigston in Leicester for ever. And there was then sealed under the same a Letter of Attorney unto Nicholas Gillot John Hynde James Ellis Nicholas Bolyvant and Paule Abney gent to receive the same deede and possession thereupon for the use of the Maior and Bayliffes and Burgesses of this Borouge of Leicester, Which was the same day performed and [*illegible*] accordingly.

CCLIII. *Pass for a Leper*

Hall Papers VII, No. 553. [Feb. 26, 1624/5.] Phillippe Johnson sent by passe to the Towne of Derbie in the Countie of Derbie, where he affirmeth that he last resided, and is by a one there dwellinge undertaken to be Cured of the leprosie or disease whereby he is infected.

CCLIV. *Meeting of Commissioners*

Hall Papers VII, No. 414. [15? 1624.] It is agreed that the Company of Butchers shall pay yearlye for their meetings in the Woolle

hall vjs. viijd., and the Company of Taylors to paye yearly xs. for the like, the same to be payd yearly at the proovinge of their Ordinalls. Otherwise not to be admitted to meet there.

CCLV. “*Orders agreed upon to be observed by and betweene the farmers of the Granges and the freemen of the Towne*”

Hall Papers VII, No. 434. [No date.] first that all such leyes and other greensword ground which hath beene plowed upp within the South feilds at any tyme within xvij yeare last past, shall be layd to grasse againe and shall be noe more plowed to thend that the freemen of the Towne may have and enjoy their Common in the same as heretofore they have used upon payne to forfeyt for and everie default to the Towne xxs.

Item it is agreed that the farmers of the Graunge lands shall not Upon Payne of xiijd. for everie sheepe and vs. for everie beast.

[blank] pt windmill hill for a middle feilde when it is fallewe home leyes for the other 2 feildes.

keep at any tyme of the yeare above two kyne and xxx sheepe for a yard land and the sheepe not to be brought into the Corne feilds nor upon any furlonge when the Corne is Caryed away untill the farmers and freemens heards of Kyne and beasts have first gone over and eaten the same by the space of ix dayes upon the like Payne of xx. for everie default.

Item that the heard of Swyne shall not be brought upon any furlonge within the said feilds after the Corne is Caryed away untill the heards of beasts have first gone over and eaten the same by the space of ix dayes aforesayd.

Item that the freemen of the Towne shall and may have and enjoy within the said feilds all such Common and privileges for and with their [illegible] horse and Cattle as heretofore hath bene lawfully used and accustomed for the freemen of the sayd Boroughe to have within the sayd [leyes] Meadowes and other parts and places of the sayd Southfeilds [illegible] all tymes usuall and accustomed saving the [illegible] hereafter expresssd It is agreed that no freeman not beinge [illegible] shall keepe above [illegible] two kyne and not above 4 Swyne [within the said] feilds at any time of the yeare Upon payment of xiijd. for everie defaulte to the farmers.

To have libertie for the freemen to fetch Claye and gravel and sand in places Convenient not prejudicall to the passage of carts or Cariages nor any usuall waye or passage The farmers to geve the Maior yearly everie of them a Couple of Capons at New year tyde.

Everie farmer to bring the Maior for the tyme beinge a loade of Coles after the rate of a loade for everie 3 yard land Mr Maior payinge for them at the Pitts.

Item that the Meadowes shall not be eaten by any Cattle of any of the foreners after our Lady Day.

[The same provision was made by Commissioners 1667. Hall Papers XVI, No. 275. Each farmer to bring five hundred weight for every yard land gratis "without recompense and reward."

Hall Papers VII, No. 395. [June 9th, 1624.] The petition preferred by the Cominers at the last Common Hall is this day taken into Consideracion, and Mr Maior and the Commissioners have taken paynes to view the places by them demanded, and there upon doe find that their demands cannot Conveniently be graunted, for dyvers reasons to us appearinge; yet wee thinke fitt their auncient priviledges of Common in the South feildes shalbe mayntayned and that the farmers of the Grange landes upon their leases to be taken shall be tyed to perform the same.

A petition of Commoners had been referred to the Commissioners by a Common Hall, June 5.]

CCLVI. *Petition of John Gibb*

Hall Papers VII, No. 178. [No date.] Mr Mayre I make bolde to write unto your Worship one of the Kings poore almes men John Gib of the hospitall of the Trinity in the New Worke by Leicester, entreats your favour and the rest of your Brethren. I have but one Childe and hee hath Given up his name to goe in to the low Countryes which I am but a poore man but yet I would bee very sorry, that it should [have] been so, to have lost xi yeers Prentyship for one yeere longe staing, which now at Whitsontyde I hope hee shall bee made free by the Grace of God therefore I crave your favors if I may bring him home to live [with] mee and his mother untill such tyme I may see what course hee will take for hee shall bee hurtfull to noe man and I will thincke my selfe behoulding to you. I beseech you to shew my wife the answer as I am bound to pray for you. Your poore suppliant

John Gibbe.

CCLVII. *"Remembrances for Mr Recorder touching his accustomed favour about the renewing of my lease of the Gosling Close"*

Hall Papers VII, No. 76. [No date.] First wheare you required it for me upon the rent of 4*l.* yearly, the gretest exception that I can learne from my freindes is that this rent advised by you in my behalfe

was to littell, touching which exception the entire rent of the Graunge was but $32\text{li}.$, out of which is taken the Beade howse middowes lett for $20\text{li}.$ a yeare or thereabouts. Allso the Milles about the same rent of $20\text{li}.$ per Annum; or else well worth so much, and the Frith Closes worth $3\text{li}.$ per annum (all which excepted) theare is reserved to be paid yearly to the Towne $100\text{li}.$ and od poundes yearly. Wheare of the said rent of $4\text{li}.$ for the Gosling Close is no parte which rent you profered in my behalfe and I will willingly paie.

The Motives to perswade them of this Towne to deale favourably with me be thease that followe.

First during the time that I had the office of exercising Jurisdiction Ecclesiasticall within this Countie I ockasioned to be spent heare $1000\text{li}.$ which office contayned in my use 40 yeaeres at the least.

Item I was theare Burges of the Parliament and so by right am one of them and so shew my selfe in all ocktions concerning the towne.

Item duringe that time I procured the then Master of the Requestes to gett theare bill signed by Queene Elizabeth which had bene deferred 2 yeaeres in solicitation wheareof the Towne spent $100\text{li}.$ of my knolidge and prevayled not, the whole some of that which was obtayned by the meanes of my lord Huntingdon a mounted to the yearlye vallor of $140\text{li}.$ ande for using the plase of theare Burges I never hade consideration which place was graunted me without my requesting the same or seeking for it.

Many other favors have I don and may yet dooe if it please God I live and on the other side may disadvantage them if I find no kindnes from them, whearefore my suite is to you that you would be pleased directly to knowe theare resolution which without you I cannot obtaine, yet nevertheless if you thinke good I wilbe content to give som what more if it please you howbeit I afferme upon my Credite the said Close contaynes not above 9 acars of ground and I mentaine the whole fencing theareof except one small corner fenced by Mr Palmer so that my charge, having nothing to releeve me in thornes or other stufte amounteth to 40s. yearlye at the least besides I have not any hey to it but that I buy which cost me the last winter $6\text{li}.$ 2d. the said Close keepinge me in winter but 4 or 5 Kine and did not yeld one in profitte for the winter time 40s. the premisses considered and my continuall favor respected I hope I dooe deserve more favor then eny ordinary person.

Your most assured to command

J. Chippingdale.

CCLVIII. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1623-24*

Other receipts for this yeare as followeth.

Item receaved of the Lotterie money xxli. and Sir William Curteyn's money xl. xxxli.

Item receaved the third daie December of Mr Ellis being Mr Evingtons money given by him to the Corporacion for the use of the poore. xlvijli.

Item receaved of Mr Sacheverell and of Mr Heyricke of Houghton towards the repaire of the Bridge that leadeth to the Dannets Hall xs.

The Totall of the Receiptes 1015. 4. 3. q.

The totall of payments 980. 15. 6.

Soe remaines' 34. 8. 9.

Fees wages and other things paid.

Item paid to Robert Couldwell for the Table for the late Earle of Huntingdon his picture vis. iiijd.

Item paid to one Christopher Carter for portratinge of yt besides ijs. iiijd. which Mr Ellis paid iiili. vis. viijd.

Item paide for gildinge the greate Salte xxvis. ijd.

Item paide to James Kirke for bringing the boat to the Boe Bridge when Mr Maior and the Commissioners went to see the decays.

Item paid to two Carters for carryinge of my lord Carewes goods to Billingworth ili. vis. viijd.

Item paide for Carryinge of Sir Thomas Merrye and Sir Robert Banisters goods to Harborough in the time of his Maiesties progresse xs.

Item paid to Edward Browne which was appointed by Mr Maior and his breethren to be given for the charge of certaine horses which were taken uppe and attended the Frenche Embassador his passage to London vis. viijd.

Item paid to George Harteshorne for carrying a loade of the Dukes stiffe to Derby xviiis.

Item paid to one of Groobie for carriage in the tyme of the Kings progresse xiijs. iiijd.

Item paid to Mr William Ludlam now Maior of the Borough of Leicester in parte of the newe increased allowance graunted unto the Maiors successivelie hereafter beinge the moitie of the fine paid by Mr Walls for the Gosling Close according to an order made and agreed upon the third daie of September laste paste at a Common Hall then held within the saide Borough of Leicester xijli. xs.

Item paid to Mr Ives for wine that was given to Mr Auditor Fanshawe when he was at Mr Ives his house and that was given to the Kings trumpeters when his Maiestie was in the countrye. *vs. viijd.*

Paid for a Quarte of wine that was given to Mr Recorder and burnt for him at his firste comeinge, beinge verie wette at Easter Sessions *xijd.*

Item paid for a pinte of sacke the *xxijth* of Februarie to one that drew the Earle of Huntingdons picture *vid.*

Item paid for a gallon of Clarett wyne and a pottle of sacke given to the Lorde Inbassadour the *xvith* of August. *iiijs. viijd.*

Guifts to Messengers and players.

Item given to John Daniell who had a pattent for the children of Bristol *vs. iiijd.*

Item given to Mr Townsend and his fellowes beinge the Ladie Elizabeth her players on the *ixth* daie of Julie. *xxs.*

CCLIX. *Proclamation of Charles I*

Hall Papers VII, Nos. 542-3. [March 30, 1625.] M^d that upon wednesdaie the Thirteenth daie of March 1625 Henry Lord Graye Baron of Groobey Came to Mr William Ludlam Maior of the Borough of Leicester and divers of his Brethren with others assembled at the Guild hall of the said Borough for takinge of the Chamberlyns accompte for the yeare past And did then and there signifie to Mr Maior that King James was departed this life and that Prince Charles was proclaymed Kinge. And did wish Mr Maior to doe the like, whereupon, and upon other good intelligence thereof receayed, that hee departed this life upon Sundaie laste the *xxvijth* of this instante March the said Prince Charles was proclaymed Kinge as followeth.

Forasmuch as it hath pleased Allmighty God to call to his mercie out of this transitorie life our Soveraigne Lord James late Kinge of England Scotland Fraunce and Irelande by whose death and desolution the imperiall Crowne of theis Realmes is now absolutely whollie and solelie come to the highe and mightie Prince Charles Prince of Wales sonne and heire lineallie and lawfullie desended of the body of our said late Kinge. Theis are therefore to publish and give notice unto all persons. That the said highe and mightie Prince Charles is the true and undoubted heire and successor unto the Crowne and Kingdomes of England Scotland Fraunce and Irelande And by this publique proclamacion wee doe notifie and proclaim his highnes (by

the grace of God) the perfecte absolute and undoubted Kinge of England Scotland Fraunce and Irelande defendor of the Appostolicall faith and within his Maiesties Dominions hath sole and alone power and authoritie in all Causes and over all persons whatsoever Whom God longe preserve

God save the Kinge.

M^d that Thomas Chapman Esquire Recorder of the said Borough of Leicester upon the request of M^r Maior did reade this proclamacion to the publisher thereof beinge Roberte Wright gent. Bayliffe of the said Borough of Leicester, both at the dore of the Guildhall, at the highe Crosse at Gainsborowe Chamber, and at Bearehill Crosse in the presence of M^r Maior and divers of his Brethren and of the said Lord Graye, and many other Gentlemen of the Towne and Countie.

The names of M^r Maior and such of his Brethren as were present at the said proclamacion.

M^r William Ludlam Maior, M^r James Andrewe, M^r William Ive, M^r Nicholas Gilliott, M^r John Hericke, M^r John Pare, M^r John Hinde, M^r James Ellis, M^r Gilbert Faucit, M^r Frauncis Churchman, M^r William Billers, M^r Roger Coats, M^r Richard Beche, M^r Thomas Smyth, M^r John Norris, M^r William Chamberline, M^r Roberte Miller, M^r William Davie, M^r Thomas Gilbert and M^r Raphe Tompson.

The names of the Gentlemen of the Countie that were at the said proclamacion.

Henry Lord Graye Baron of Groobey John Chippingdaile Docter of the Lawe Charles [illegible] Esqr. Henry Faunt Esqr. Henrie Turvill Esqr. Robert Tyringham gent Thomas Stanford gentleman William Bainbrigge gent John Roe gent.

M^d that the third daie of Aprill 1625 Sir Henry Shirley Knight and Baronet high Sherife of the Countie of Leicester sent A Messenger To M^r William Ludlam their Maior to intreate his companie and assistance the daie followinge to proclaime the said King Charles.

At which time the said highe Sherife came to M^r Maior and they went both together to the high Crosse and there proclaimed the said Kinge Charles and afterwards at Gainsborough Chamber at which tyme the said highe Sherife did himselfe in person reade the said proclamacion.

[Names of Mayor and townsmen who were present is practically the same as before.]

The names of such gentlemen of the Countie as were present at the said proclamacion.

Sir Henry Shirley Knight and Baronet High Sheriff of the Countie of Leicester Sir William Villars Knight and Baronet Sir Thomas Burdett Knight and Baronett Sir Wolstan Dixie Knight Sir William Faunt Knight Sir William Hericke Knight Sir William Roberts Knight Thomas Babington Esquire George Ashbey Esquire William Babington Esquire.

CCLX. *Meeting of Commissioners*

Hall Papers VII, No. 503. [April 1, 1625.] It is agreed that Mr Thomas Smyth Tanner shall have the lease of the Barne and barne close late Mr Freakes land and of the Close now in the occupation of William Cotes for xxij yeares from our Ladie Last payinge ix*l*i**. for the first yeare and xx*l*i**. for the rest of the Terme at Michelmas and Ladie day not to sett nor [let?] without consent nor to plowe but to pay xls. an acre to mayntayne the fences and to [*illegible*] theem sufficient and to mayntayne the highways adioyninge.

CCLXI. *Letter from Sir Thomas Hasilrige*

Hall Papers VII, No. 560. [April 19, 1625.] Good Mr Mayor and the rest of your Societye.

My Sonne beinge willinge to adapte himselfe for the service of his Countrye, is desirous to become a Scholler in the best Schoole of Cristendome, for knowledge, and experience, (the parliament howse of England) a desire that everye father is to further in his children. And therefore I am now iustly pressed hereby, to present the first request that I ever yet made to your Societye, that you would doe me the favoure and my sonne the Grace, to bestowe a burgesse place upon him, wherein you shall not only make him a bounden servant of your Corporacion, but myselfe (for the small remaynder of my aged dayes) an assured, and faythfull lover, and in all good offices a verie servitour, of your Societye.

Soe leavinge him, and my suite to your Grave Considerations, and your selves to the Lords direction, and protection I cease and rest.

Your verye lovinge frend, and neighbour

Thomas Hesilrige

Nosely this 19th of Aprill 1625.

CCLXII. *Letter from Lord Huntingdon to the Mayor*

Hall Papers VII, No. 567. [May 12, 1625.] * * I have directed my warrants for theis musters * * I * * desire you to give order to all the Inkeepers victuallers and Alehousekeepers that good and wholesome meate may be provided for those cuntry men that will then be there and that unless some be desirous to dine or supp in their Chambers and to exceed in their diet, they shall not take of them above eight pence a meale for a man during the tyme the Cuntry stayes which I conceave wilbe reasonable on both sides.

CCLXIII. *Meeting of Commissioners*

Hall Papers VIII, No. 98. [June 9, 1625.] It is nowe agreed that Mr Holmes shall this daie begin to saie devine service twice everie workedaie in the yeare accordinge to the limitacion of Mr Tamworth's will which he hath nowe undertaken to performe and doe accordinglie; and is to receave twentie nobles a yeare to be paid him quarterlie; the first payment to begin at Midsomer next And Mr Holmes doth undertake that the Church dores shall be open and a bell runge to give notice of the said prayers at due times according to the said will.

CCLXIV. *Case before the Mayor and Justices*

Hall Papers VII, No. 573. [July, 1625.] Mathew Jarvis of Leicester Burneman doth affirme that this morninge about 9 of the clocke this examineth beinge in the River of the Sore neare the Westbridge fillinge his burne, there came one Edward Flavill Burneman with his Burnecart to fill water, and as he was fillinge his vessell, he cast water severall tymes upon this examineth, whereupon some words passinge betwixt them, this examineth sayd that if the sayd Flavill would not be quiett he dothed not but to have him in the oulde shope before night, And thereupon the sayd Flavill answered, yea Mr Maior is your landlord, but I care not a turd for Mr Maior nor his lawe, for I lyve under Gods lawe

Mathew + Jarvis
his marke

for which he is to find suerties for his good behavior or else is to be Committed to prison.

[Names of sureties for £10 each given.]

CCLXV. *Meeting of the Mayor and others*

Hall Papers VII, No. 590. [July 11, 1625.] At this meetinge William Symson and John Henshawe beinge Common Caryers to London, in regard of the great and present danger of the Infeccion of the plague in London, are commanded not to carrie any wares to London nor to bringe any downe nor to Carrie or convey any passengers to or from thence nor themselves or their Servants to travile any more to London untill further order be taken.

CCLXVI. *Letter from George Tompson*

Hall Papers VII, No. 604. [July 14, 1625.] M^r Bullyvant my lord commanded me to write to you that whereas his lordshipp hath answeared all the objections made by the Captains to the Lords of the Counsell against M^r Mayor of Leicester but only this that one John Cooper alledgedeth that the Maior of Leicester caused him to be pressed because an Aunt of his is sister to the Mayors wife whoe hath promised to do something for him as her neare kinsman which if he miscary is like to come to the Mayor by his wife (theise be the words of the Capitaines objecions).

My lord desires M^r Mayor to write his letter to him what hee shall answere Concerninge this accusacion.

And so prayinge you to acquaint M^r Mayor herewith that he may send my lord with what expedicion he may; because my lord entendes to returne to the Lords very speedily

In haste I rest

Your very loving frend

George Tompson.

Donnington.

CCLXVII. *Extracts from a long statement concerning the soldiers*

Hall Papers VII, No. 595. [No date.] A note of Souldiers returned from the Countys of Leicester and Rutland togeather with the defects and wants of those that bee able men as alsoe of the imperfeccions of those that are lame and unfitt for his Maiesties service.

Edward Remmington of Dalbie was present and Robert Bartrope was put on his faith by my lord of Huntingdon but the Souldiers say hee was hired and had 16s. for his paines.

William Hill of Annestye wants hose and shoes shirt and bretches 38s. gathered in theire parishes.

Thomas Oleton of Thorptanton wants a shirt 6*li.* gathered in theire parish for three, but there came but one.

Edward Corbett of Sharnford well provided.

John Arnold of Stoney Stanton prest but Thomas Betts hired in his place and prest before my lord of Huntingdon wants shirts and shoes.

Thomas Thorneworth of Thorneby shepperd was prest but is changed by Mr Cleave of Melton and Mr Badger for Richard Wilson of Burton.

Nicholas Bratt [?] of Nelson weaver is run away and left his coate with Mr Everard.

Francis Jefford of Melton Glover was prest and run away at Worlidge with his Coate.

Thomas Ashby of Melton Miller is run away with his coate.

Edmund Stevenson of Gadisby troubled with a pain in his backe prest by [Mr] Barnes Counstable whose brother was prest and herefore pressed him for ill will.

Francis Sutterby of Leicester went away lame from Tedbury and lefte his Coate with a Certificate.

Ralph Purnes of Leicester was prest as hee saith by the mallyce of the Phisitions in Leicester and the Mayor would not suffer him to send to Mr Cranes of Newton for whome he had bought phisicke. The said Ralph Purnes saith that all the Company was sent 40 miles on the way before himself and five more now in the Indenture were presented and then others sent back in theire places and delivered their Coates an the prest mony to those now in the rowld and had but [?] groates a peece before of the Mayor for prest mony.

William Sparke lame of his right hand and left arme prest by the Mayor of Leicester.

Lancelot Clarke a greate rupture in his belly.

Thomas Braunston his ribbs broake.

Jeffray Bragg troubled with palsey.

Richard Norris troubled with a bloody issue 8 yeares prest by the Mayor of Leycester.

John Cooper hath a wast that disables him until it bee cured and alleageth that the Mayor of Leicester caused him to bee pressed because an Aunte of his is sister to the Mayors wife whoe hath promised to doe something for him as her neere kinsman which if hee miscarry is like to come to the Mayor by his wife.

Heads touchin ye particulers.

i. The abuse of the Constables in bringing forth unable persons and their sudden sending of them away so as by theire hast an lacke of meanes most want cloathes lynning and other necessaries.

2. And likewise the Mayor of Leicester many abuses of the Service.
3. The losse and turning away of ye souldiers in their bringing downe.
4. The Souldiers Complaynt that they have none of the Twoe hundred fowre score and one pound four shillings foure pence which they say was gathered for them in theire Countrye.

CCLXVIII. Meeting of the Mayor and others

Hall Papers VII, No. 615. [Aug. 1, 1625.] It is agreed that if there happen any poore traviler to want means of necessarie sustenance, that the watchmen (first acquaintinge Mr Maior or the Alderman next to the place therewith) shall helpe them to necessarie foode and the same to be payd for by the Chamberlyns.

CCLXIX. Minutes of Common Hall

Hall Papers VIII, No. 131 a. [Aug. 19, 1625.]

[No one is to receive wares from London or to send anyone to London.]

Item it is agreed that one of the xxiiij^{tie} or xlviij^{tie} shall walke about every day to oversee the watchmen that they do well and duely performe their places and the antientest of the 24 which hath not been Mayer shall first beginne and see every one to follow in order according to their antiquities and that their shall be a decent staffe provided for that purpose and every one when he hath done this service for the day to send the same to the next.

Att a meeting of the Company of the xxiiij^{tie} the 25th of July 1625.

It is now agreed that the Wednesday exercise of fasting praying and preaching be held at every severall parish church within this Borough, and noe bell to be ronge for the sermon at any Church in regard of the heat of the weather and the danger of the time.

It is agreed that the pest houses be cleared of their tennants that be in the houses presently and be repaired and made fitt for the present use by the Chamberlaines.

CCLXX. Meeting of Mayor etc.

Hall Papers VII, No. 603. [? 1625.] It is agreed that noe Inhabitant within this Borough of Leicester shall intaryne or lodge any person or persons whatsoever cominge from London or any other place infected with the plague without the consent of Mr Maior or Alderman of the Ward neyther shall receive nor send for any wares from London or other place infected without the like Consent, And that this order shall be publiquely proclaymed throughe the Towne and to contynue untill other order be taken therein.

CCLXXI. *Order from Bp of Lincoln with regard to the Subsidy*

Hall Papers VII, No. 634. [31 Aug. 1625.] It cannot be unknowne unto you what extraordinary occassions his Maiestie hath of expenses at this time for the weale and preservacion of his Kingdome and that all the stocke for the mayntenance of the same consisteth in theis Two Subsidies graunted to his Maiestie by Parliament. Nowe it hath beene made to appeare that of late yeares his Maiestie hath suffered much by the negligence and indeede partialitie and Connyvance of those Commissioners whom I and my predecessors (trusted therein by his Maiestie) have appointed for the Ratinge and Seesinge of the Subsidies. for whereas the taxe of the Clergie is fixt and certaine, and that of the nobilitie holdes uppe the heighth the Country onelie and the Commonaltie in all partes of the Kingdom are fallen almost a moytie of their wonted proporcione without any Colour of reason why it should besoe. Nowe times of Accion will not permitte his most excellent Maiestie to starve by those Connyvances, which in the former daies of peace have slipped unexamined I am to require you therefore to take notice of the severall Totalls to the which the particular Subsidies of this Sheire have mounted ever sithence vicesimo of Queene Elizabeth of famous memory and acquaintinge the rest of the Commissioners with the same to let them knowe that his Maiestie doth iustlie expecte at this time the highest proporcione in all those totalls or some satisfactorie reason in writing of any falling or abatement which they shall make from the same.

Jo Lincolne.

Southampton, 31 Aug. 1625.

CCLXXII. *Meeting of Commissioners*

Hall Papers VII, No. 638. [20 Sept. 1625.] It is now agreed that if a more convenient purchase cannot be found to satisfie Mr Tamworths guift of CC marks, before the next Terme. That then the Close called the Close before the barne parcell of the lands late purchased of Mr John Freake shall be conveyed to feoffees in trust accordinge to the sayd Mr Tamworthes will, for mayntenaunce of one to say devine service in the parish Church of St Martins in Leicester everie workeday in everie weeke.

CCLXXXIII. *Remembrance for Mr Wadland*

Hall Papers VIII, No. 57. [Hilary Term 1625.] To acquainte the Lord Bishoppe of Lincolne with the purchase made for the CC marks given by Mr Tamworth and to procure an Order from him that if Mr Holmes should refuse to performe the service accordinge to Mr Tamworths Will that an other may be admitted into his Church to performe the same. Mr Recorder will advise and helpe you herein.

CCLXXXIV. *Meeting of Commissioners*

Hall Papers VII, No. 592. [? 1625.] At this meetinge John Dannet Esq. beinge desirous to take a lease of the Vicariall tithes of Dannels Hall and Welchall and mary milnes with the lands thereunto belonginge was offered the sa[me] at vli. yearly rent and xvij*l*. for a fine to be paid at Mich[l]emas excepte the Easter duties and excepte the tith of Mr Ellis his grounds and Mr Hericks gr[ounds] Mr Dannet hath accepted the same at vli. yearly rent and xvij*l*. fine to be paide a fortenight after Michlemas next and the lease to be made and sealed before Michlemas with such covenant and condicions as by the Townes Counsell shall be reasonably demised and the same lease to begin when Mr Hericke his Lease is expired and then to be for one and Twentie yeares then next follow[ing].

CCLXXV. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1624-25**Fees wages etc.*

Item paid to the Mr Chaplins and poore of the hospitall in Leicester called Wigston hospitall for one halfe yeare endinge at Michaelmas 1625 beinge the first payment from the Towne of the Annuitie or yearelie rent of xli. per annum issuinge and goeing forth of the lands which were lately purchased by the Towne from Mr John Freake. vli.

Item paid to Mr Wright vicar of S. Nicolas for Lammas Tithes for the Pesthouse. ijs.

Item paid to Jarvis and Atkins for borrowinge halberts and gatheringe the trayned souldiers togeather to carry them. xiij*d*.

Item paid to John Whatson for a paire of gloves given to Mr Sheriff when he made the warrant for chusinge the Burgesses. vis. viij*d*.

Item paid to Simpson the carier for his losse in butter when he would have carried it to London in the time of sicknes. iiijs.

Chardges about the pressinge and settinge forth of souldiers in Leicester.

Item paid for the Bearward to Mr Newcombe for his chardges in the gaole being prest for a souldier ijs. iiijd.

Item paid for apparell Conducte money and money in their purses for xiij^{teene} souldiers vli. vs. vid.

Chardges for watchinge to keepe Londiners out of the towne in the time of plague [Dates from 9th July to end of September].

Item paid the xxth daie of August to Henry Crowe for watching at the Spitlehouse for one weeke iiijs.

Feasts and Banquets.

Item paid to Mr Clarke for a Banquet when the Kinge was proclamed my Lord Grey beinge there ijli. xviijs.

[There follows a long list of expenses amounting to £17. 9s. 2d.]

Guifts of Wyne etc.

Guifts to Messengers etc.

Item paid the xxijth of October to Players beinge the Princes Servants goeinge by the name of the Youth of Bristow. ili. vs.

Item paid to a Company of Players late Queen Anne her servants the xxvijth daie of December. ili.

Item paid to a Company of Players beinge late the Lord Beaumonts servants. vs.

CCLXXVI. *Letter from Sir W^m Heyricke to Sir H. May*

Hall Papers VIII, No. 122. [12 July 1626.] I have beene often and earnestlie entreated by a greate many pore beades men of ye ould and auncient hospitall in Leicester and in the name of all the rest and likewise with the advise and consent of Mr Maior of Leicester and his brethren to a pious and religious action which Charitie Challendgeth at my hands and I thinke I have formerlie acquainted you with all whose soules fare worse then their bodies and they alsoe verie poorelie. I make bould to laie open their desire. Three Chaplaines by the founder of that hospitall were Carefullie provided, the first hath tenne pounds per Annum to preache unto them, the second six poundes to administer the Sacrament and the third five poundes to saie prayers mornening and eveninge all which God knowes is weakelie performed and one poore Almesman of that house serves the Cure for xxs. the yeare. Now their desire is seing this xxj*z*. yearelle is but a small pencion amongst three men; and they serve it accordinglie that you would be pleased that one sufficient and able man may enjoy the whole Stipends and they will of their own Chardge make for him a habitable and convenient house upon that ground wherbie he may be continuallie constant and resident amongst them to be a Comforter

unto them in their sicknes and to performe those Christian dueties which belongeth unto soe greate a familie, one of the 3 is now latelie dead who had sixe poundes the yeare another who hath tenne is verie weake and not likelie to live; and the third verie ould. Now if it would please you to give unto Mr Maior and his brethren who have the government of that hospitall to nominate and make choise of some one able and sufficient man to be their Chaplaine and to tie him to dischardge those dueties requisite and necessarie for that place. It will give greate contentment to all parties; the house well served, God wilbe truelie honored; and manie soules well comforted; all the gentlemen neare adiacent well pleased; and in time noe doubt but it will add some benefactors to the house.

Sir my desire is not to disposses them liveing but after their death it maie then all come to one man.

CCLXXVII. *Letter to Sir H. May concerning the amalgamation of stipends*

Hall Papers VIII, No. 169. [31 Oct. 1626.] Right honorable * * wee have beene bould formerly to become suetors unto your honor for the bestowing of Mr Sacheverells pencion and other pencions allowed from his Mat^e for devine servicees to be celebrated in the Ould Hospitall of the Newarke of Leicester upon one able and fitt persone to be nominated by the Mr and governors of the said Hospitall wee have now againe thought good to renewe our former suite and withall to Certifie your honor that it hath pleased God this last night past to call to his mercie forth of this Worlde the said Mr Sacheverell by whose death the said pencion is in your honors disposinge which we humbly desire may rest undisposed untill wee shall finde one fit and able persone to recommend unto your honor which with all convenient speede wee will doe His place likewise of being publique preacher of this Towne and a pencion of xxxli. per Annum geven by the right honorable Henry late Earle of Huntingdon in perpetuitie for the maintenance of such a preacher (as wee take it) is also in your Honors guifte or disposinge wherein we hope and humbly intreate that by your honors good meanes Wee may have a learned and fitt man for that place which a one as this Corporacion shall nominate unto your honor to succeed that Worthie and reverend man now deceased as your Honor hath beene pleased formerly in your honorable care and love to this Corporacion to promise when tyme should produce occasion which now by Gods appoyntment is come to passe.

CCLXXVIII. *Petition of Ministers and Schoolmasters for
Mr Angell as Preacher*

Hall Papers VIII, No. 194. [2 Jan. 1626/7.] Wee the Ministers, and Schoolemasters of this Towne perceiving (as wee take it) some difference amongste you concerninge the choyce of our publick Preacher, and fearing some daingerous consequence that may followe thereupon; have thought it a seasonable duty of ours to intreat, and exhort you to a loveinge and speedy unity, and agreement in this important buisnes. Divers worthy learned, and godly men have beene commended unto you for this place, but yet without disparagement to the gifts and persons of any wee doe even from the truth of our harts approve, and esteeme Mr Angell to be a man of worthye gifts, and moste fittinge to discharge the greate paynes which will be likely to be required of him many waies, but specially for keeping of a constant Lecture one day in the weeke, and wee doubt not but his able performance of these dutyes will greatly tend to the honor of god, the conforte of us all, and the greate proffitt and Creditt of this Corporation And soe committinge our Judgments to your consideration and this greate matter to Gods moste wise direction wee rest.

Yours to be commaunded in the Lord.

Thomas Holmes	Thomas Cave
John Bonnett	John Hyll
Francis Higginson	Richard Richardson,

CCLXXIX. *Letter from W^m Heyricke to Mayor concerning the
appointment of a Preacher*

Hall Papers VIII, No. 195. [2 Jan. 1626/7.] * * I heare you arre going to a choyce of a Lecturer for your towne to supply the place which my late Cozen Sacheverell faythfully served you in many yeares * * in which choyse I beseech you chose on that is Conformable to the church established, a grave man and a good scoller and sound devine, and not facktiouse wherein I pray you remember to set aside all pryyate affection and Joyne all together for publick good.

I ame now Lyckwise to admonishe you aboute youre minister for the ould hospitaule * * which when yt pleased his Lait Mat^e to encorporate the same I maid knone unto him and since to my brother May now Channisler of the Duchey and did entreat him that after the death of those 3 which had stipends weare ended it might come to one mans handes which should bee still resident and dwellinge amongst them and still with them in health and sicknes which is much desired of

them and approved of divers others Now twoe of ther divines be dead as Mr Rudyer and Mr Sacheverell and though Mr Bonnet have a graunte of Mr Rudyers place yet I hard word but during pleasure, geve me leave I pray you, to be earnist with you in more this then you thinck I have Cause When I procured the government of the hospitall to Mr Mayor and his successors as now it is, and at that time weare Redy to be taken from you, when it had cost you a good some of money I recomended the government of the hospitall of the gray friers now Christ Church in London to his Mat^e my Layte Master decassed at which time he Commaunded me to see to ye government of this which I promised faythfully to do, now if you will geve this 10 poundes per annum to your new preacher and the hospitall nc better served then befoore hit hath beene you shall geve me Just Cause to complaine Therefoure I entreat you, that the partes if still it must be served in to three hands the maybe strictly enjoyned to serve the places carefully and faithfully and that ther may be ounce in 14 daise a sermon [*illegible*] in the Weekday and the Sacrament administered so often as shalbe thought necessary and the pore meen who ayre Ignoraunte to be catikised with prayers as hath beene accustomed, you shall do that is most necessary and fittinge and the people well satisfied, otherwaise you shale greeve mee Leave with the pore men to seek remedy. Verbum Sapienti sa[tis] est. Sir I pray you have a Cayre of the government and good of that ould house which I prayse God is nowe in youre government and some releve to the pore of your Towne, but that the Waies be so fowle I wold have come to you my selfe but this I hope may serve * *

CCLXXX. *Petition to the Mayor*

Hall Papers VIII, No. 330. [? March 1628.] Right Worshipfull May it please you Calling into our Memorie the Conference had betwixt ourselves and Mr Angel Schoolemaster, upon his first coming to Leicester, as also the good encouragement wee then gave him upon tryall made, to accept of ye Schoole being destitute in hope that ten pounds yearly would be added for his better maintenance: and being now entreated by him to bring to pass, what then was persuaded him and of which ourselves were fully persuaded. We doe with much earnestnes desire, that, (seeing neyther his insufficiency of gifts unfaythfulnes in his place, nor any other personall misdemeanour doe occasion our just exceptions) you would be pleased to give Vertue to our Words, and move the rest of the Brethren to satisfie his reasonable desires; that soe, wholy bending himself to his studies to what he hath undertaken,

he may with more heart effect, what long wee have laboured for, the health and recovery of our decayed Schoole. In witness whereof we have heere unto sett our hands . * * March 1628.

William Ive John Heyricke

Nicholas Gillott Francis Churchman

[No. 331. A number of additional names added to this petition.]

CCLXXXI. *Anthony Cade's letter to the Mayor about
Mr Angell's salary*

Hall Papers VIII, No. 336. [2 April 1629.] * But lett my love to you all, and to the Country about you, challenge mee this Priviledge and bouldnes, to counsel you not to lose so tryed and worthy a Man for such a matter. I hould a good Schoolmaster one of the best Jewels, and most necessary men (next after the Guides of our Soules to Heaven) which the Comon Welth can have to profit and polish with his hand, the best Jewels which God geves us, our Children. Which if they be not polished and profited in their due times, their times are unrecoverably lost, and their persons too, or at least, lose much of their luster. And therefore such Jewels (or Jewelers) cannot be bought to deare. I know all such good polishers of such rare Jewels (as we ought to account our children) are not very ordinary, but either they fail in skill, diligence, or conscience. In none of which (I hope) you can taxe this Angell. And we all know also, that the world is not as it hath bene, the Prices of all things are raised, and so must in æquity bee the Stipends and entertayntment of men (as all things are which they must buy) Besides it is not for the honour of the Corporacion to have it sayd that you have lost such an approved worthy Instrument of that good for such a matter: or that you are content with others farre worse (at least untryed) so you may have them cheaper. far be it from you And for a conclusion, It may be, some will repent if they geve so much but I think veryley, you will repent if you do otherwise.

CCLXXXII. *Meeting of Commissioners*

Hall Papers VIII, No. 89. [20 April 1626.] It is agreed that Mr William Palmer shall have a license to lett the Milles Called the Newarke Milles and the wind mill lately demised to him by the Towne, unto Thomas Swanne, for such Terme and Rent as they shall agree of duringe the life only of the said William Pallmer notwithstandinge the promise in his sayd lease the sayd William Palmer still to contynue the Townes tennant of the same and gevinge to the Towne at the sealinge of such license a peece of plate of the value of v*li*. at the least.

CCLXXXIII. *Examination of supposed recusant*

Hall Papers VIII, No. 118. [12 May 1626.] * * * he receaved the Sacrament at Blithe in the countie of Nottingham at Easter last [* * *] but had not receaved the same of seaven yeares before whilst he went in the habitte of a foole. And being demanded where he had the beades and Crusifixes and other things which were found upon him saith that about a weeke agoe he Came to Sir Henrie Hastings at Colwicke in the Countie of Nottingham with whom he had formelie beene in his other habitte and that a younge gentlewoman one Mr Mantons daughter gave him the beades and three of the said Sir Henrie Hastings daughters, Mrs Elizabeth Mrs Katherine and Mrs Joyce gave him the Crusifix and the rest of those things.

CCLXXXIV. *Letter to Justices of Assize*

Hall Papers VIII, No. 109. [16 July 1626.] Wee * * * doe there upon certifie your Lordships that there hath not died within the severall parishes in Leicester being sixe, since the xxvjth of Maie laste (which daie the first that was suspected to die of the plague was buried) above the number of 44 persons of all diseases; there being above 3000 Communicants within the same parishes whereof there hath died of the plague or suspected to die of the plague onelie thirteene and those in 6 houses and noe more There is at present not above one sick within the Towne which is feared to be of that disease; and those that have died have dwelt in Backe lanes and remoate places and not in the harte of the Towne nor neare unto the place of your Lordshyps lodging and other occasion and most divers of those that have beene in places of danger are removed to Pest houses.

CCLXXXV. *Assessment for Military purposes*

Hall Papers VIII, No. 131. [No date.] A noate of the names of all such persones as doe refuse to pay theire several assessments towards the raysing of fiftie pounds appoynted by warrant from the Right Honorable Henry Earle of Huntingdon Lord Lieutenant of the Countie of Leicester dated the xxvijth of July 1626. to be levyed and collected within the said borough for Militarie provision.

[List of 75 persons Sum Total £5. 11s.]

Received by me Walter Rudings gent for and in the behalfe of the Right Honorable Henry Earle of Huntingdon Lord Leuetenant of the Countie of Leicester in parte of payment of the somme of L [blank] appoynted by warrant from his honor Dated the 27 of July 1626 to be levied and col[lected] within the same Borough of Leicester for

militarie provision for his Mat^{ies} service the some of fortie foure pounds nine shillings with the names of such persones as being taxed towards the raying [of the] said somme for the provisions aforesaid have refused to pay theire severall assessemens amounting to v*l.* x*s.* I say received the said some of [*blank*].

CCLXXXVI. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers VIII, No. 132. [15 Sept. 1626.] Imprimis it is agreed by most voyces that the chardge alredy past for the visited people (over and above the Tax alredy made) shalbe borne forth of the Chamber of the Towne and be so allowed upon the Chamberlins accompte And that from henceforth there shalbe a Monethely Taxacion of such value as Mr Maior and the Justices shall thinke fit so long as there shall be cause.

CCLXXXVII. *Order for levy of forced loan*

Hall Papers VIII, No. 193. [6 Jan. 1626/7.] These are to will and require you in his Mat^{ies} name for the which upon receipt hereof to geive notice and warninge to all your brethren and the rest of the able inhabitants of the Burrough aforesaid together with all and everie such person and persons as are assessed in the last subsedie within the said Burrowe And in Case any of them be dead or gone out of the said Burrough then to such persons to whome theire estates are come and are in theire places and allso to all able persons inhabitinge within the said Burrough or the lymmitts thereof fitt to be assessed in the subsedie that they and everie of them (all excuses sett apart) faile not to appeare before the sayd Commissioners and other his Mat^{ies} Commissioners appointed for the execucion of the Commission aforesaid At the Towne hall in the Burrough aforesaid upon Mondaie the fifteenth daie of this Instant Januarie by three of the Clock in after noone of the samedae And in Case any of the said persons be soe disabled by sicknesse or other inevitable occasion, that hee cannott appeare before the said Commissioners at the daie and place aforesaid that then hee send one sufficiently authorised to answer for him touchinge the said loane And allso that you your selfe be then and there present and bringe with you in writinge the names of all persons * * * by you summoned to appeare as aforesaid and the times when you gave everie of them such summons and warneinge And hereof faile you not as you tender his Mat^{ies} service and will answer the contrarie at your perill.

[Note added by Gilbert Fawsit to say he has summoned the persons to appear as ordered.]

CCLXXXVIII. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers VIII, No. 199. [? 1626.]

Item it is agreed that the Clarke of St Martins shall have the vjs. viijd. per Annum and the 20 nobles which Mr Holmes hath of Mr Tamworths guife for ringing the B[ell] to prayers and his other service and attendance at the tyme of Service.

CCLXXXIX. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1625-26*

Other Rents this yeare.

Item receaved of Mr Bolyvant for his whole yeares rent ending at Michaellmas 1626 of the fines and amerciements in the Courte xxs.

Item receaved of Mr John Terrie of London by the hands of Mr George Wadland for the rent of two Meadowes called Beadehouse Meadowes belonginge to the Newarke Graunge in Leicester demised to the said Mr Terrie for xj yeares from the annunciation last for one halfe yeare ending at Michaellmas 1626 xxs.

Rentes increased.

Item receaved of [illegible] Walter of Wheston for one whole yeares rent of the Messuage and yard land lately purchased of John Baker with the ⠃ ⠃ marks geven and demised by the last will and Testament of Christopher Tamworth Esqr deceased for divine service to be celebrated twice everie workeday in the yeare in the parishe Churche of St Martyn in Leicester according to the said will viij*l*.

Other Receipts.

Item receaved of the two Companies towards the raysing of fiftie pounds appoynted by warrant from the Right Hon^rble the Earl of Huntingdon to be collected for Militarie purposes xxij*l*. vs.

Item receaved of the two Companies upon the first assessment made for the releife of the visited people and for watchinge and other chardges thereunto incident the somme of xv*l*. xvs. iiijd.

Fees Wages etc.

Item payd for a bond for the compromisinge of the differences betwixt the Towne and Mr Nurse about the Newarke Millnes xijd.

Item paid to Mr Holmes for reading prayers accordinge to Mr Tamworthes will begun the foure and twentieth day of June 1626 for his quarterage i*l*. xiijs. iiijd.

Item payd for two horses to Donington when Mr Maior sent to the Right Hon^rable the Earle of Huntingdon to entreat a mittigation of the fiftie pounds for municion and for trayned souldiers. iijs.

Repaires etc.

Item payed for time and sand used about the little Bridge at the White Hall iijs. iiijd.

Chardges for watchinge to keepe other visited people from us.

Imprimis payed two men that watched at the West bridge the last of Aprill and the first of Maye. ijs.

Item payed Michaell Greene for openinge and shuttinge the double gates nineteen weekes vis. iiijd.

Guifts to Messingers etc.

Imprimis geven to one Slator and his Companie beinge the Kings Playors the xvth of October ili.

Chardges of the new Pesthouses with the taking of the ground and Chetteles house.

Item payed to the Vicar of S. Nicholas for the Tythinge of the grounde iijs. iiijd.

Item payed to George Chettle for the use of his house xvjs. viijd.

Item payed to the Vicar of St Nicholas for the Tythe of the Pesthouse yarde. ijs.

[Total £15. 4. 8.]

Visited People.

Imprimis payed for searchinge of xliti dead corpes ili. iiijd.

Item payed to Atkins for killinge of tenn doggs. is. viijd.

Item payed for a spade to burie the visited people in St Maries close. is. ijd.

Item payed for the dayely releife of the visited people in the Swan Lane at the North gate Red Crose and St Maries Close as appeareth by particuler the Somme of xlli. iijs. iiijd.

Chardges in watchinge and money geven to poore people to passe them thorough the Towne begun the xxixth of Sep: 1625.

Item payed to Edward Knight that he gave to poorē passengers to keepe them from cominge into the Towne from the xxix of September to the xij of November as appeareth by his bill. xs. ixd.

CCXC. Common Hall

Hall Papers VIII, No. 208. [25 April 1627.] *Imprimis* it is agreed by a generall consent that the money Collected for the militarie provision shall be payed to the earle of Huntingdon and the names to be certified of those that will not paye.

Item it is agreed that Edward Browne shall have the keeping of

foure pest houses for this yeare and shall have for the same ij*l*. per annum to be Collected as formerly it hath beene if he doe duely performe the same service the yeare to begin at the feast of thannunciacion of the Blessed Virgin Marie last past.

Item it is agreed by most voyces that the Waytes shall have noe Wages payed them here after in respect of theire negligent Service in not playing about the Towne at the tymes appoynted and theire Scutchions to be called for and kept from them untill other order be therein taken.

CCXCI. *Meeting of Commissioners*

Hall Papers VIII, No. 201. [26 April 1627.] It is agreed that Noah Fawkner shall have a lease of his shope in the Saterday Markett which he now holdeth, parte of the Shoomakers stalles for xxj yeares from Michelmas next for xxj yeares, the fine xxxs. the like Covenants and Rent as in the former lease.

William Bottamley to have a lease of the 2 stalls which he now holdeth, parte of the new shoomakers stalls beinge slated for xxj years from Michelmas next for xxj yeares payinge Rent and xls. fyne with like Covenants.

It is agreed that John Weston shall have the stall in the Shoomakers Rowe which he now holdeth for xxj yeares from Michelmas next payinge ijs. Rent and xxvjs. fyne with like Covenants.

CCXCII. *Minutes of Common Hall*

Hall Papers VIII, No. 200. [11 May 1627.] It is agreed that whereas there was an Order made at the last Comon hall that Richard Storie should agree with the Companie of Taylors before he should be sworne free of the Towne. Since which tyme the said Richard Storie hath endeavoured to geve them satisffaccion and hath offered them vj*l*. which they refuse to accepte and doe demand Tenn pounds. It is therefore at this Comon hall ordered and agreed by most voyces that the said Richard Storie shall be sworne a freeman of the Towne notwithstanding the former Order he paying the said six pounds which he offered the one halfe to the Towne the other to the companie of Taylors which is now left with the Chamberlins.

[Hall Papers VIII, No. 208. 25 April 1612 gives the Order referred to above.]

CCXIII. *Minutes of Common Hall*

Hall Papers VIII, No. 219. [27 July 1627.] Whereas there hath beene xjs. vjd. yearly payed to the Bayliffe of [illegible] for vj Shopps decayed in the Saterday markett divers yeares past yet the Rente for the same Shopps being viijs. per annum hathe beene unpayed 20 yeares [illegible] It is therefore now ordered that there shalbe from henceforth onely viijs. per annum payed by the Chamberlins to the said Bayliffe for the rent of the said shopps and no more.

Item it is agreed that if any of eyther of the Companies of the 24^{tie} or 48^{tie} or any other [person] within the said Borough be behinde or hereafter shalbe behinde for any Cesemente [illegible] for mustering or trayring or other lawful taxacion made or to be made by Mr [Maior] and the Justices and refuse to pay the same upon demand thereof then the same persone or personnes to be distractyned [in their] goods for the same or committed to warde by Mr Maior and the Justices in theire dis[creation] untill they have payed the same.

CCXCIV. *Meeting of Commissioners*

Hall Papers VIII, No. 226. [19 Sept. 1627.] It is now agreed by Henry Cowell that all his tennants of St Maries Close and the house that he houldeth at the Redcrosse in fee farme shall paye their Rents to the Chamberlyns of the Towne for the tymbe beinge untill the whole Rent which is behind and due to the Towne be fully satisfyed, which the same tennants have agreed unto. Viz William Wright for that parte of St Marie Close which he holdeth per annum xxxijs. to be pd quarterly, and to begine at Michelmas next. Dorothy Frogmorton for an other parte of the said ground per annum xxiijs. at the like tymes, Agnes Tedston for a Chamber there per annum viijs. Thomas Tyler for parte of the house at the Redcrosse per annum xxvjs. Henry Crowe for an other parte of the same house xs. quarterly to begine at Michelmas next and Henry Cowell to paye for that parte which he houldeth xijd. per annum to make the rest up vli. per annum.

CCXCV. *Order from Privy Council*

[Hall Papers VIII, No. 44. [30 Nov. 1627.] Order from Privy Council that strong watches shall be set on all the main roads for the arrest of soldiers who have deserted. They have just returned from Isle of Rhé.]

CCXCVI. *Minutes of Common Hall*

Hall Papers VIII, No. 234. [?1627.] *Imprimis* it is agreed that the Comicion shalbe renewed according to the last Comission both for setting in fee farme and leting by Lease and for purchasing of Lands unto the Commissioners Vizt. Mr William Ive, Mr Nicholas Gilliot Mr John Heyricke Mr [] Pare Mr John Hynde Mr James Ellis Mr William Ludlam Mr Gilbert F[awsitt] Mr Paul Abney Mr Richard Wye William Twigden and William [illegible] Arthur Clarke John Somerfeilde and William Speechley.

Item it is agreed that the estate in revercion bought of Sir William Smyth [illegible] Humphrey Smyth shalbe setled upon theis feoffees undernamed in trust for the [Town] viz. [List of names defective.]

CCXCVII. *Petition to Mayor, Justices, etc.*

Hall Papers VIII, No. 306. [No date.] Maye it please youe to understande whereas your peticioners the Company of Taylors within this burrough of Leicester to the number of foure and fortie and in householde above two hundred have ever mayntained themselves and theire famelyes honestly in good order of their occupation, payeing all duties to their severall callings belonging. Now are, and like to be more, and more impoverished and hindered by straungers whose names are here under subscribed ; whoe like drone bees to the hyve, paying nether scot nor lot, lye lurking in the suburbs, and other secret places, in and aboute this towne, and robbe your suppliants of the worke, which they should doe to theire great disgrace and utter undoeing ; if reformation be not speedily had and done, by the assystance and ayde of your aucthorytie, to suppresse and expulse them, and also to prevent such and the like future enormities an[d] iniuries, by such unlawfull persons hereafter to be commytted within this libertie and suburbs or any parte thereof Maye it therefore stande with your lykeing * * to set downe a decree, never to be altered, to drive away these fellowes ; and that hereafter noe stranger or forrayner be admytted into the Company or made free amongste us or the suburbs thereof

George Kynge Edward Clipson John Coltman Thomas Hudson and one Snellyn	} with divers others which lye lurking in the Suburbs and other secret places in and without the libertie.
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[Hall Papers IX, No. 238. [1633?].] Petition of Company of Taylors against admission of Richard Billings to freedom. Protest is made against so many free men being admitted to their Company. The petitioners declare that their families "being in number nere unto three hundred" are very poor, and they ask that no one should be made free of "our Company unles it be worth our Consents accoordinge to the Ancient Custome of our Orders."]

CCXCVIII. *Chamberlains' Accounts, 1626-27*

Total Receipts	£433. 14. 9.
The Totall of Supers allowed	6. 0. 0.
	<hr/>
	427. 14. 9.
So due to Town	130. 8. 3.

Fees Wages etc.

Item payed to the officers at the Comisaries courte being presented about St Maries Chancell.

Item payed unto Robinson for [illegible] of vellum for to enlardge the lock booke xs.

[Payments to Players. Pollard and his Company.]

*Repaires etc.**Guiftes of Wine etc.*

Item geven to a Preacher that preached at St Martyns on Easter Day and Blake Munday one quarte of sake is. ijd.

Item payed for one pottell of White Wyne geven to Sir Henry Skipwith at the hall beinge there about the loane to his Maiestie the xijti of July is. viijd.

Item payed for one pottell of wyne geven to Mr Browne and his wife when he brought his boule? for his freedome the xxijth of July and for suger then ijs. xd.

Guifts to Messingers etc.

Item geven to a man and a woman that were at Couldwells playinge with puppets iiijs.

[Payments to Players. King's Players £1. Children of Revells £8. 13. 4.]

Charges of muster etc.

Item payed to Bull for going to Thurmaston and Siseston to looke for some that ran away xd.

Item payed to Docktor Chippingdales Clarke for two warrants to search out of the liberties of the Towne xjd.

CCXCIX. *Enclosure of Forest*

Hall Papers VIII, No. 143. [No date.] To the Kings most excellent [Mat^e]. The humble peticion of the Maior Bayliffs and Burgesses of the Borough of Leicester.

In most humble manner sheweth unto your highnesse your loyall and obedient Subiects the Maior Bayliffs and Burgesses of your highnes Borough of Leicester in your highnes Countie of Leicester That the said Borough is an auncient Incorporacion Consistinge principally of manuall trades wherein are Six [several] parishes verie populous and many poore and standeth farr from the Sea or any Navigatable river is maintayned cheefely by the faires and markets neare to which Towne there is a certaine forrest or chase called Leicester forrest a parte of the soyle and woods whereof is your Maties and diverse greate parts doe belongeth to the owners of severall manners adioyninge, who for theire owne benifitt (although to the hindrance) if not overthrowe of Thousands of your Maties poor Subiects doe labor and goe about (as your peticioners heare) to procure your Matie to disafforrest and improve the same, from which forreste (may it please your highnesse to understand) the Inhabitants and Tradesmen of the said Corporacion have greate supply of wood for firinge by sales there made and the poore which are not able to buy fewell have allwaies had much releefe by gatheringe and fetchinge on theire backs from thence broken, Dead and rotten wood which your said Subiects by this Disafforrestinge are like to be utterly deprived of: And your peticioners further shew unto your Matie that thorough the same forrest there is dayly brought by Carts and other carriages to the said Towne of Leicester and to many other Townes within the said Countie and partes adiacent greate quantities of pitt cole being the principall fewell which that Cuntrie doth afforde (the wood being there verie much wasted and decayed) And likewise Iron and Timber and other marchandise which are used in this Towne and Cuntrie and most of Corne and other Commodities which are fetched from the said Towne are Carried through the said forreste Soe that if the said forrest be enclosed and the waiers which now lie open be put to lanes (the Condicion of the ground being foule and wett) the same is like in shorte tyme to become unpassable and soe your peticioners feare that the Disafforrestinge and enclosinge of the said forreste will quickly turne to the ruine and utter overthrowe of the said Corporacion if your Matie in your princely wisdome and care of your poore Subiects doe not cause the same to be stayed All which we are bound in the behalfe of our selves and our posteritie to signifie unto Your Matie And in alle obedience and humilitie submit the same to your gracious pleasure and our selves our lands and goods to your Maties service.

CCC. "An expressemest of the many and great g[rievances that] will happen and Come to the Inhabitants of the Borough of Leicester by the Disafforrestinge and enclosinge of the forrest or Chase called Leicester forrest"

Hall Papers VIII, No. 144. [No date.] The said forreste being verie neare unto the same Towne of Leicester, the Inhabitants thereof have allwaiies had greate supplye of fyre wood forth of the same forrest, by sales there made; which the said Inhabitants (if the same be Disafforested) shalbe utterly deprived of, to their greate impoverishing or utter undoinge, by reason of the scarcitie of Wood in that Countrie. Whereas a greate and principall parte of the livelihood and maintenance of many Tradesmen living within the said Borough of Leicester, Doth consiste, by carryinge their wares and goods on horseback unto our markets, and by the intercourse of others, cominge to the said Towne of Leicester, to bring victuall and other goods to the said Market, and to buy there such things as they want, whose waies and passages are many of them through the same forreste both unto and from the said Borough of Leicester, which waies if the said forest be enclosed, and the passages now lying open (and beinge verie foule) be put into narrowe Lanes the same waies will in short tyme become altogether unpassable, the said forreste beinge about three miles in extent severall waies, and doth lie so farr distant from any Towneshipps and forth of any knownen parishe, that there cannot be any possible meanes used for the well keeping of them, the nature of the ground beinge verie Wett and Deepe as appears by the lanes lyinge neare unto the said forreste which are verie chargable to the Countrie and yet almost unpassable in the wynter tyme Through the said forreste is yearly brought, by Cartes and Carriages, unto the said Towne of Leicester, greate quantities of pitt Cole, being the principall fewell which that Countrie doth afforde, and wherewith the said Towne is especially supplied for fyeringe, (the woods thereabouts being much wasted and decayed) of which Comforstable benefit the now Inhabitants of the said Towne of Leicester and their posteritie, are in great dannger to be utterly deprived, by Reason of the enclosure of the said forreste, and the straytning of the passages unto and from the said Towne of Leicester, in and through the said forreste if the Disafforresting and enclosinge of the said forreste do take effecte.

[pitt cole?] is brought by Carts and Carriages forth of the Countys of Warwicke and Stafford [and from other] parts of the Kingdom greate quantities of Iron. Timber and other marchandize [are brought] [*ille-gible*] of Leicester verie usefull for the Tradesmen of the [said towne].

CCCI. *Letter of Robert Inge with regard to interviews he has had about the enclosure*

Hall Papers VIII, No. 145. [13 Nov. 1626.] I also dealt with Mr Attorney who promised the like, by whom I perceived that there hath been some endevor used by Sir Miles Fleetwood, for him to Joyn in or to further a new Commission, for Compassicion etc. with the Commoners, which he refuseth to doe.

CCCII. *Letter concerning the enclosure*

Hall Papers VIII, No. 46. [15 Dec. 1627.] Whereas Sir Miles Fleetwood Knight Receiver of his Maties Court of Wards and Liveries hath bene authorized by Commission under the great Seale of England to treate with all the Lords, Towneshipps free holders, Tenants and Commoners within the precincts and liberties of the forrest of Leicester, for the disafforestacion of the sayd forrest for his Maties service And the sayd parties having bene called into the Exchequer by Informacion have in their answeres confessed and acknowledged the severall agreements made betwixt them and Sir Miles Fleetwood to their Contentment, whereupon a Decree is to be made in his Maties Court of Exchequer for confirmacion of the same. These are therefore to will and require you to be upon all occasions ayding and assisting unto the sayd Sir Miles Fleetwood in this service of his Maties for the accomplishment of the sayd disafforestacion And to take speciall care for the suppressing of any Ryotts, tumults, or disorders that may arise by any rude or misgoverned persons in the performance of the same: and especially now that the sayd forrest is to be enclosed and severally divided. Whereunto not doubting, but you will have such regard as a service of this importance requireth, we bidd you hartily farewell. At the Painted Chamber at Westminster this xvth day of Dec: 1617.

CCCIII. *Papers relating to the enclosure of the forest*

Hall Papers VIII, No. 285. [13 Feb. 1628/9.] Mr Maior at the request of Mr [illegible] [I have] thought good to let you understand that [illegible] take the benefitt of the forty acres given by his maiestie for the poore of your towne to and for the onely use of the said poore, and also the profitte of the xx^{tie} acres allotted to your Corporacion for and in lieu of the Comon which you are to have in respect of your grange lands, within the late disafforested forest or Chace of Leicester

untill such time as you can conveniently obtaine letters patents from his Mat^e for the said forty acres and twenty acres which I would wish to be done with what speed you can, And in this and in all other occasions shall be ready to doe you any service and rest Your assured Loving frend

M. Fleetwood.

Sir I shall desyer that the benefitt and full profitte of the 40 acres may be settled that the poore of the Borrough of Leycester may onely enioye the same, and that it may nott hinder them of any former relief they have had from amongst you.

M. Fleetwood.

Hall Papers VIII, No. 365. [14 June 1629.] Mr Bolyvant the Convenience of this messenger gives mee ocation of to a more exact consideration of the disposition of [*illegible*] forrest ground for the poore My desyer is therefore that you would prosecute Mr Recorder (if you can)

- with you to move Sir Myles Fleetwood about a course for the setlinge upon the towne of the poores ground but especially to get order from him in what maner the rent shalbe disposed, the ground beinge set at 16*li.* per annum whether he please to order, that the monye disborsed for fencing this 2 yeares beinge in all 17*li.* shalbe taken at one wholl yeaeres rent or whether he please to have 10*li.* a yeare disposed to the poore and the other 6*li.* yearly [*illegible*] in discharge of that charge till it be come up and whether he shal not thinke 5*s.* a pc a fitt quantity to by a pore man a lode of wood and soe some to have it one year and some another Thus with desyre of your health and good suckses in all your aferes I comit you to the Almighty and rest.

Get his order for this or ells I knowe not how wee shall dispose of any of the Rent.

W. Billers.

Hall Papers VIII. No. 286. [No date.] Mr Maior and the Justices of the peace within the Borough of Leicester doe streightly charge and comand that no persone or persones whatsoever dwellinge within this Borough of Leicester Doe at any time hereafter fetch or bring any wood or thornes upon there backs or otherwise forth of the forreste or any grounds thereto adioyning (unleasse the same wood be theire owne) upon payne of incurringe the Seavearest punishment that by Lawe can or may be inflicted upon them.

William Billers Maior

Gilbart Fawsit

Francis Churchman.

CCCIV. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers VIII, No. 249. [5 May 1628.] It is agreed That M^r Paule Abney shall goe to London to solicite the Parliament house Concerninge the forreste And to have his Charges borne by the Towne.

CCCV. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers VIII, No 249a. [15 May 1628.] It is agreed that M^r Recorder and M^r Abney shall have a Letter written to them from the Towne that they shall make knownen privately to the Earle of Huntingdon and the Earle of Stanford that if meanes cann be made to his Mat^{ie} that the forrest may continue as formerly it hath beene that this Corporacion will geve five hundred pounds towards the raisinge of money for his Mat^{ies} satisfaccion in that behalfe.

CCCVI. *Meeting of Mayor and his Brethren*

Hall Papers VIII, No. 255. [17 Aug. 1628.] At this meetinge M^r John Whatton beinge tendered the Oathe of one of the xxiiij^{tie} accordinge to a former eleccion and haveinge refuzed to take the same It is therefore ordered by M^r Maior M^r Recorder and the rest of the Companie of the xxiiij^{tie} now assembled, that the said John Whatton (according to the auncient order in that Case used) shall remayne and continue in the hall as then committed untill such tyme as he take the said Oath, or that M^r Maior and the Aldermen doe take further order therein.

CCCVII. *Petition of W^m Twidgeon and John Whatton to the Earl of Montgomery, Lord Chamberlain*

Hall Papers VIII, No. 296. [21 Nov. 1628.] Most humbly shewing. Whereas one John Whatton being a freeman of ye said Towne and corporacion was latelie elected to be an Alderman in ye same, whereunto he was also commanded by an order of the right honorable ye Lords and others of his Mat^{ies} most honorable privy Councell, yet notwithstanding he refusing to hould ye place was therefore fined by the said Corporacion to pay 200 marks ready money whereto he gave consent, but wanting present money Your Honors peticioner lent him soe much upon his promise before witnes to repay it againe in short time, which he hath not only delayed, but doth now refuse the payment

and bidds your peticioner take notice, that he is one of his Maties sworne servants and will not pay the mony, if he can avoyd it.

Your honors peticioner therefore most humblie entreateth your Lordshipps to take into your consideracion his uniuist dealing and to command ye said John Whatton to make present payment of the said debt or else to give your Peticioner leave to proceed in lawe for ye recovery thereof The rather for that the said John Whatton refuseth the payment merely out of obstinacie and not of necessity which indirect practizes your humble suppliant is confident shall not be countenanced by your honour And he (as in duty bound) will ever pray for your honors health and happiness.

2 November 1628. If Mr Whatton doe not give the peticioner satisfacion herein uppon sight hereof the peticioner may take the ordinary course of law for his releife

Montgomery.

Hall Papers VIII, No. 275. [3 Dec. 1628.] If the hall will be pleased to remit my fine, I will give a peece of ground of seven nobles rent per annum, neere the dove coate close after the death of me and my wife, to maintaine the cundith and the over plus to the poore, and we will dureinge our lives maintaine it as hitherto we have done. Also we will give, as we had begunn to do three shillings and fourpence weekly, duringe our lives amongst 40 of the poorest in the old hospitall yf they will take my word for the doinge of theise things they shall by gods help be performed to the full, first with some overplus, but if they will not then I will give such reasonable security for the doing of them as they shall thinke fit. And further whereas we had till now of late a full purpose to give after our death for ever, land at barrow worth fifty pounds a yeare either wholly to the old hospitall, or part of it to them, and the rest to such other uses in the towne as we shall be perswaded to be most charitable, besides some other things we purposed to have bene doing as God should have moved our harts and occasions bene offered, this purpose shall againe be renewed notwithstanding the hard measure we have receaved, and we shall by Gods helpe be as carefull that our purpose be not crossed in this, as in the bestowinge anythinge els that we have but if this will not prevale, then what I can be forced to I must pay, but for any thinge els it shall appeare ere long that although we cannot as some saye take it out of the world with us, we shall finde places to bestowe it in rather than heere where yt is so reiecte In witnes of the whole I have setto my hand the 3rd of December 1628.

John Whatton.

CCCVIII. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers VIII, No. 259. [No date.] *Item* it is agreed that there shall be Twentie Nobles payed yearly forth of [the] Chamber of the Towne to one such persone (as by this hall shall be allowed of) [to] be keeper of the Librarie in the Church of St Martyns in Leicester and the payment to continue onely duringe the Townes pleasure to be payed quarterly [at] the foure usuall feasts to begin at which feaste shall firste happen after eleccion and Settlinge of such a persone in the said office.

CCCIX. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers VIII, No. 288. [No date.] It is allso agreed that the fayor for sheepe which hath beene usually kepte in the said Borough of Leicester on May Daye shall from henceforth for the better orderinge of the said fayor and for the ease and Conveniencie of those that shall come to the same begin upon May Eve beinge the last Day of Aprill in the place accustomed when and where everie man may resorte to buy and sell as formerly hath beene used on May Daye.

CCCX. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers VIII, No. 304. [13 March 1628/9.] *Imprimis* it is agreed that the Overseers of the poore of everie severall parishe within this Borough shall take order [for] theire poore accordinge to the Lawe so that none of them doe begge after Lady Daye next forth of theire owne parishe nor within the parishe without the Consent of the Overseers upon such payne as by the Statute is appoynted.

Item it is agreed that there shalbe a Stocke of *xli.* at the leaste raysed forth of the said parishes for [setting] the poore on worke everie parishe to paye halfe a quarters Collection and the same to be gathered by the Collect[ors] before Easter next and payed to M^r Maior. And that M^r Maior and the Justices with Consent of the Ov[erseers] of the severall parishes shall deliver the same to such persone or personnes as they shall thinke fitt to provide stufte to sett the [poore] on worke upon such securitie as M^r Maior and Justices shall lyke of by them to be geven for repay[ment] of the said money at such tyme as they shall thinke fitt.

Item that the Constables in theire severall wardes Thirdborowes Overseers of the poore and oth[ers] shall carefully doe theire dueties to keepe out all Beggers of the Countie.

Item it is agreed that the Comissioners shall lett the fortie Acres of grounde in the Forrest forth for the poore of this Corporacion to the best benefytt they Can.

Item it is agreed that the Towne shall paye for the settis which are to be used for the [enclosing] of the Twentie Acres in the Forrest appoynted for the Graunges.

CCCXI. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1627-28*

Newe Rents.

Item receaved of Mr John Heyricke for two tenements in Parchment Lane late in the occupacion of three Widdowes and now of the said Mr Heyricke in fee farme Rent per Annum iijs. iiijd.

Rentes increased.

Item receaved of divers severall persones being by them voluntarily geven towards the removeinge of the heade Schoolemaster of the free-schoole and procuringe an other in his place.

Other Receipts.

Item receaved of Mr John Whatton for his fyne for not serveinge of the Companie of the xxiiij^{tie} the somme of Cxxiij*li.* vis. viijd.

Other Receipts this yeare.

Item receaved fr a ould Silver Spoone. vs. xd.

Item receaved fr an oulde sworde iijs. vid.

Item receaved fr a payre of Sizers ijd.

Item receaved for a golde ring found by one Johnson xviijs.

Item receaved from Mr Bolyvant that was left by a fellowe that brake the olde shopp and run away ij*li.* viijs.

Item receaved of George Buntinge that a fellowe left who brake out of the house of Correcion iiijs.

Item receaved for certayne clypped silver iiijd.

[Receipts. 917. 12. 0.

Payments. 875. 2. 3.]

Payments.

Item payed to the Mr Chaplyns and poore of the hospitall in Leicester called Wigstons Hospitall for one whole yeare endinge at Michaellmas 1628 issueinge forth of the lands lately purchased of Mr Freake by the Corporacion xli.

Item payed to Mr Holmes Vicker of St Martyns for readinge of Divine Service twice everie workeday in the weeke beinge the guift of

Mr Christopher Tamworth deceased for his whole yeares salarie or wages *vili.* xiijs. ivd.

Item payed to the Clarke of St Martyns for ringinge the Bell to Prayers. vjs. viijd.

Fees, wages, etc.

Item payed to Mr John Angell Preacher of Gods worde for his whole yeares Salorie or Stipend from the Towne *xxxli.*

Item payed to Mr Newcombe and James Richardson for their paynes horsehire and charges to gett divers Ministers handes concerninge the getting of our Lector to be kepte in St Martyns Church xis. vid.

Item payed for watchinge at the west gates to keepe people from fetchinge wood in the Forrest ijs.

Item payed to John Kirke and others for fyndinge and takinge up the Stoks at the West gate they beinge throwen into the Soare is. vjd.

Item geven to one Thomas Johnson for fyndinge a Golde Ringe vjs. viijd.

Item payed by the appoynment of Mr Maior and the Aldermen unto [blank] Callidis a poore widdowe of St Maries Parishe when she went to His Maiestie to seeke helpe for a child haveinge the Kings evill xs.

Item payed for a Dixonarie for the free schoole *ii.*

Item payed for dykeing the *xli* Acres in the forest sets with wood for the gate and Iron as appears by a Bill *vili.* is. viijd. And to Mr Rudyns towards the fenceing betwixt him and us xs.

Item payed to Mr Hyll for leaving his place of heade Schoole Master in the Freeschoole by Order of Mr Maior and the Foure and Twentie *Lli.*

Guifts to Messengers.

[Various Players mentioned. Earl of Pembroke's, Lord Dudley's, Children of the Revells, Swinnerton and his Co., Kyght and Co.]

Item geven to a greate Companie of players called the Cheefe Revells by Mr Maior Mr Gilliott and Mr Ellis their appoynment *ii.* xs.

Repayres.

Item payed to Robert Couldwell for seaven poore mens boxes sett up in Seaven Innes xiijs.

Item payed to Robert Page and Lawrance Warner for banckinge the Row dikes at the request of the Earle of Huntingdon *ii.* iijs.

Item payed to Thomas Brewyn and an other man for levellinge the Townehall floare which the Salt peter man digged ijs. ij*d.*

[St Maries Chancell various payments for repaire amounting to £7. 11. 2.]

*Item payed for cleansinge the Schole when Mr Hill lefte it beinge
verie foule xijd.*

Guifts in Wyne and Suger.

*Item payed for a pottell of Sacke and a pottell of Clarett Wyne
geven to Sir John Lambe when he came to view St Martyns Church
for convenient placeinge the lofte. iiijs.*

[Payments to great persons. Lord Mansfield, Bishop of Carlisle, Sir William Villiers and Sir John Stanhope.]

*CCCXII. Letter from Commissioners of Subsidy to Commissioners of
Subsidy in Leicester complaining that the returns are unsatisfactory
and asking that greater care might be taken*

[Hall Papers VIII, No. 327. [31 March 1629.] "Wee send with the Commissioners the Rolles of Recusants as they are returned unto the Exchequer and for such as are to be had in the County yourselves can best provide."]

CCCXIII. Meeting of the Twenty Four

Hall Papers VIII, No. 350. [15 May 1629.] At this meetinge there was openly read two Letters the one from Mr Doctor Clarke the other from Mr Cade of Billesdon both of them written in Commendacion and greate approbacion of the good deserts of Mr Angell the Schoolemaster with request of somme further allowance to be added to him forth of the Chamber of the Towne which hath beene by him decreed to be *xli.* per annum It is now thought fit by most voyces of those now present that the said Mr Angell shall have *xli.* per annum forth of the Chamber of the Towne duringe the Townes pleasure, to be payd halfe yearely and to begin at Michaellmas next if a Comon hall shall agree thereto.

CCCXIV. Meeting of Mayor and the Twenty Four

Hall Papers VIII, No. 347. [5 June 1629.] It is alsono agreed that there shall be xx marks payd to Mr Rudings forth of the Chamber of the Towne when Mr Rudings hath sufficiently repaired the waye from the uper end of Marie lane so far as his land doth extend on eyther side the way toward the forrest gate, and geven securitie to mayntayne the same at his owne charge at all tymes after and the same to be geven as a free and voluntary guift of the Towne.

Item it is agreed that the way from Robert D [illegible] Corner to Braunston brige shall be repayred by the Towne and that Marie lane

shall be repayred and kept by the parishoners of St Maries, which is undertaken by Mr Watts Mr Paule Abney and Mr July Billers now present.

CCCXV. Kalendar of prisoners in the Gaol .

Hall Papers VIII, No. 364. [July 1629.]

Bayles.

Joane Peckleton in
the contrie gaole

found by Inquisicion before
the Coroners to have bewitched
Shirley the wyfe of Thomas
Ware to death.

CCCXVI. "A meetinge of Mr Maior and the ancientest of the Alldermen with some others chosen for the Care of renewinge the Charter and at this tyme for sendinge to Mr Recorder about the same"

Hall Papers VIII, No. 427. [30 Oct. 1629.] It is agreed that there shall be a letter written to Mr Attorney of the Duchie Concerninge the Castle Miles That if he will accept of 500*li.* at reasonable tymes of payment the Towne will deale with him for them. And that Mr Recorder or some other shall attend him further in this busines.

CCCXVII. Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen

Hall Papers VIII, No. 462. [23 Dec. 1629.] It is agreed that 20 nobles shall be geven to the poore forth of the *xli.* geven to the use of the poore by Mr Richard Bennet and the other five marks to remayne in the old Chamberlyns hands and to be made up *xli.* againe with the xx nobles geven to the poore by Mr Tamworths will and then to be disposed of as this companie shall think fit.

Item it is agreed that the money geven by the Earle of Stamford and Mr Tamworth and devided as appeares by the note annexed shall all be geven away to the poore this Day.

CCCXVIII. Meeting of Mayor and Justices

Hall Papers VIII, No. 476. [28 Jan. 1629/30.] This meeting is appoynted for the suppressinge of Kilnes. Dannet Abney beinge requested to pay his fynes of vjs. viijd. for usinge a Kilne answeareth that for his fine he will submit him selfe to the Companie and that he will remove his Kilne so far that it shall be out of danger (God willinge) Christopher Sutton sayeth that his Kilne is in little danger and that

he maulteth no more but his owne Corne, and he will be bound if neede be in 1000*l.* to save all his neighbours. M^r Thomas Rudiard sayeth his kilne standeth 50 closes from any dwelling house but if M^r Maior and ye Justices shall thinck it to be dangerous he will eyther slate the maulting rompths adioyninge to his kilne or else remove his kilne 100 yards further from any house the said M^r Rudiard is discharged from buyinge any barley upon the wall to convert into Maulte.

M^r Julius Billers hath payed vjs. viijd. and promised to geve bond to secure all his neighbours George James being no freeman is discharged from using maultinge.

CCCXIX. *Proclamation of Bishop concerning weekly services
at S. Martin's*

Box 14. Various Papers, No. 3. [20 Feb. 1629/30.] John by Gods providence Lord Bishop of Lincoln To all whome theis presents shall any waies concerne Greeting in our Lord God everlasting. Whereas it is alleaged and petitioned to us by the right Worshipful the Mayor Burgesses and Towne of Leicester, as allso by Thomas Holmes Clerke Vicar of the parish Church of St Martins in the towne of Leicester aforesaid and with in our dioces of Lincoln, that one Christopher Tamworth late of the Graies Inne did by his last will give two hundred marks to buy lands of the value of six pounds thirteene shillings foure pence, yearly for the findinge of one in holy orders to say divine Service, accordinge to the Lyturgie of the Church of England, every Worke Day in the weeke twice, throughout the yeare perpetually in the parish Church of St Martins in Leicester aforesaid, and that the Mayor and Burgesses of Leicester aforesaid with the consent of the residue of the Towne should appointe a fitt man for that purpose; which guifte hath taken effect and the land is bought and the service performed according to the intent of the donor: and for the further legall settling thereof that wee would ratifie the premisses under our Episcopall Seall, and grant and allow that what Minister in holy orders shall perpetually bee nominated to us or our Successors Bishops of Lincoln by the Mayor and Burgesses with concenct of the Towne of Leicester aforesaid shall and may (according to the said Tamworths guifte and intencion) bee approoved and admitted by us and our Successors Bishops of Lincoln and have power and authoritie to say divine service twice every Worke Day weekly in the said parish Church of St Martin aforesaid without any manner of disturbance interrupcion or molestacion. Know ye therefore that wee the said John Bishop of Lincoln aforesaid having well weighed the

premisses and finding them to tend to the Advancement of Religion and Gods service, have ratified the premisses and granted and allowed thereof, and doe by theis presents for us and our Successors ratifie the same and grant and allow thereof according to the instance and request of the aforesaid right Worshipfull the Mayor, Burgesses and Towne of Leicester aforesaid, and of the said Thomas Holmes Clerke Vicar of the said parish Church of St Martins aforesaid. (So farre forth as by the Lawes and Statutes of this Kingdome wee are permitted) In witnes Whereof wee have hereunto putt our Episcopall Seall Given at Westminster College the Twentieth Day of February in the yeare of our Lord God (according to the Computacion of the Church of England) One thousand Six hundred twentie and nine and in the ninth year of our Consecracion 1629.

Jo. Lincoln.

CCCXX. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1628-29*

Other receipts this yeare.

Item receaved of John Allyn Stationer forfeited to the Towne by him for keeping a shopp and using his trade one moneth before he was made free ij*li*.

Item receaved of M^r Maior which was collected by M^r Tompson and M^r Abney for fynes and amerciaments at the Court Leets more then they layed out as appeareth by a bill of particulers. xijs. vid.

[In margin] receaved of theis fynes in toto iiij*li*. and geven to the poore of the severall parishes ij*li*. vijs. vjd.

Payments. Simon Mudd.

Item payed to the poore of the severall parishes in Leicester in iiij*d*. bread by agreement at a Common hall payed yearly forth of the land lately purchased of M^r Freake iiij*li*. xvjs.

Item payed to the poore of the severall parishes in Leicester beinge the guifte of the Countess of Devon. ij*li*.

Fees, Wages etc.

Item payed to M^r John Angell head Schoolemaster of the said Schoole for halfe a yeares stipend lately geven him by the Towne for his better mayntenance vi*li*.

Item payed to M^r Franncis Peck for keepinge the librarie geven him by a late Common Hall for one halfe yeares sallorie ij*li*. vjs. viijd.

Item payed for carryinge a woeman with childe 3 tymes to Barkbey 2 on foote and one on horse back is. vid.

Item payed to him [Mr Clarke] for dyninge of Lxxty Couples at iijs. iiijd. a Couple with Servitors and musicions allso unto it. xjli. xijs. iiijd.

Item payed to thirtie poore people by vs. iiijd. a peece to buy them fewell beinge the halfe yeares rent of the fourtie Acres of ground in the forrest geven to the poore of Leicester at the dissafforestinge thereof viijli.

Guifts to Messengers etc.

Item geven to Mr Fenner (?) the Kings Poet to passe by the Towne without playinge iijs. iiijd.

Guifts of Wyne etc.

Item payed for three gallons of sack spent at a Common hall the xxth of Februarie 1628. xiijs.

Item payed for one gallon of Claret then spent iijs. iiijd.

Item payed then for v dozen of Caks bread and beere vjs. vjd.

[Hospitality payments. Banquet to Bishop of Lincoln. Doctor Yong Dean of Winchester. Guifts of wine to 11 different preachers.]

Repayres.

Payed to William Humber for two dayes worke [*illegible*] horse-faire deke is. viijd.

CCCXXI. *Meeting of the Twenty Four*

Hall Papers IX, No. 125. [April, 1630.] It is agreed that the now Overseers of the poore with the Churchwardens of everie parish shall goe through the severall parishes and viewe what number of poore theire be and take notice of them in what worke they are employed and how the worke whether well or ill on or before Wednesday next and certfyed to Mr Maior.

CCCXXII. *Minutes of Common Hall*

Hall Papers VIII, No. 591. [17 Sept. 1630.] Imprimis it is agreed that if any Maulster in the Towne shall refuse or doe not performe such suppressinge or other order as shall be made by Mr Maior and the Justices concerninge the Converting of barley into maulte or other disposinge of theire Corne Maulte or grayne shall be bound to answeare

theire offences at the Counsell table according to the Counsells Letters lately received.

What everie man will geve towards the providinge of Corne for the poore and what Corne hee will bringe in appeares upon everie of theire heades.

M^r William Davie M^r Mawson M^r Speachley and Thomas Bursuall chosen to make provision of Corne for the poore and to sell the same to them by small measures.

M^r Maior is desired to call the rest of the Companies now absent before him and all Corne masters and presse them to this Charitable worke.

Item it is agreed that the waye beyond the Spittle house shalbe sufficiently mended and plancks made for footemen and that there shalbe vli. towards the chargd thereof payed forth of the Chamber of the Towne M^r Maior is entreated to oversee the worke.

CCCXXIII. *Minutes of Common Hall*

Hall Papers VIII, No. 602. [St Math. Day, 1630.] It is ordered that at all tymes when there is a Comon Hall Mr Recorder shall be entreated and sumoned to be there and likewise to wake [*sic*] with M^r Maior and the Companies at the fayers which he hath now promised to doe so often as he shall be at home and can with Conveniencie.

CCCXXIV. “To the right worshipful the Mayor and his Company of the Towne of Leicester”

Hall Papers IX, No. 3. [30 Oct. 1630.] Whereas it falleth out that I finde I have greate wronge by some neighbours of our towne of Whetston whose names are hereafter mentioned concerning some parte of my leas of furground in that they be detayned from use by them I heretofore having beene directed and guided to them by certeyne neighbours alsoe of our said towne that is to say one William Denshire, Thomas Moore, and some others which (as they say, did know them that they did belonge to the land that I hold of your worships) I then markeinge the same and at that time M^r Ludlam and M^r Bullivant were at the markeinge thereof M^r Ludlam that yeere being Justice and my said mark ever since till nowe of late hath thereon remayned that M^r Alexander Allen Thomas Allen Edward Davie or Richard Allen Thomas Kenny William Thorpe and M^r Hastings Ward have

cropped and marked them particularie in manner following Claimeinge them as theirs or belonginge to that land that is in their severall tenures or occupacions in mannor followinge vizt. first concerninge 3 leas shoot east into grindill slade and west towards three furlongs Mr Allen hath cropped two of them and claymeth them as his and the other Richard Allen or Davie hath cropped and Claymeth as belonginge to the land of Thomas vale beinge in his or their tenure or ocupacion and two leas lyinge on the east side the slade aforesaid Thomas Allen hath cropped parte of and Claymeth them as his and one other leay shoot east towards our great penn Thomas Kenny hath marked and Claymed as belonging to Thorps land in his ocupacion and on leay shoot east towards heay Brooke Mr Ward hath marked and Claymeth as belonginge to the land that he lately sold to one Butler and more over one leay on Sowfeild hill or south feild alie William Thorpe hath marked and claymeth as belonging to his land the great parte of them as aforesaid I beinge derected unto by William Denshire and Thomas Moore in the presence of the said Mr Ludlam and Mr Bullivant they beinge then theire Moreover there are Certayne furlonges in our feild vizt Ashbystie furlong longe branneley and shorth branneley which have beene partinge furs heretofore and for ought that I can learne every man hath a proporcionable quantitie for his land and as for my selfe I have none there that I knowe nor any in Lewe of them wherein I alsoe thinke that both you and my selfe have great wronge thereby they being of our best furs for the most parte that we have in our feilde Therefore I wolde entreate you that you wilbe pleased to take some Course that both you and my selfe may be arighted therein that neither you nor I be further wronged in the like. Soe havinge made bold to certifie to your good worshippe the mannor wrongs therein sustayned hopeinge that you wilbe pleased to accept of it as the parte and dutie of an honest tenant.

Whetston.

William Walker.

CCCXXV. *Letter from Earl of Huntingdon, W. Dixe,
and J. Skeffington*

Hall Papers IX, No. 37. [5 Nov. 1630.] Whereas it is not unknown unto you that wee have receaved his Maiesties Commission with instruccions thereunto annexed with his highnes letters concerning the compounding with those that made defaulte of appearance to receave

the order of Knighthood at the tyme of his Maiesties royall Coronacion * * * * there being many and divers within your Towne lyable to this fyne yet if you please to compound with us in one intire and grosse Some we shall more willingly accept it rather then to proceed with severall persons Wee cannot but tell you what for certen we hear the shire townes of Nottingham and Derby have compounded for expecting in proporcione the like of you leaving it to yourselves to devide as you please, who better know the true valew of mens estates within your owne body politique then we can doe. The fore mencioned Townes doe willingly and with alacritie make fine after the rate of five Subsidies which they have already payd to the Collectors for his Maiesties use Wee assure ourselves you wilbe noe waye inferior but rather preceed them in your Compositions having receaved soe many gratious and royall favours from the Kings predecessors.

CCCXXVI. Letter from Earl of Huntingdon, Dixie, and Skeffington

Hall Papers IX, No. 38. [13 Nov. 1630.] * * Whereas on Thursday last by three of the Members of the Towne (viz.) Mr Foursitt, Mr Coats and Mr Abney was brought a message to me the Earle of Huntingdon in answeare unto our letters unto you dated 5th of this present, which being noe way satisfactory unto us * * * wee have sent theis our letters once more hoping that as the second thoughts are best; soe consultinge againe, the fruite of your Counsells will produce this good effect as our former desires and demands being granted wee may * * * be satisfied and not occasioned to send for soe many several persons as we must doe and soe make a long worke of that might in short be dispatched.

CCCXXVII. Meeting of the Twenty Four

Hall Papers IX, No. 47. [6 Nov. 1630.] It is agreed that the Chamberlyns shall make up the lether bucketts at the hall two dozen and that everie one of the XXIV shall provide and keepe in his house two buckets and everie one of the xlviij shall provide and keepe in his house one leather bucket and the Chamberlines shall make 4 hookeyes with Chaynes and all this to be done before May Day next.

CCCXXVIII. *Letter from James Browne, London*

Hall Papers IX, No. 112. [7 March 1630/1.] Mr Maior * *

This is to lett you understand that whereas I did worke in Leicester of my Trade in dressinge of hempe, my wages was so small that I was not able to lyve upon it. But nowe syncce my commynge from thence upp to London I am a free man of the Cittie, and of the Company of Marchauntailors and am intended to worke for myselfe, but if I should worke Journey worke, I may have fowerteene pence a dousen Where I am to worke it upp at all, to fynishe it for sale, or for Huswives And in that kind to doe you any pleasure, I will doe my best, if I may be certen to have worke, as here I can have it, and if my owne worke will not be ynough, as I knowe it will not I can take Apprentice according to the order of the Cittie of London, to serve me wheresoever I shall be mynded to dwell. And in regard that my Wife is willinge to dwell where she was borne, I am willinge to worke there in sast or beaten hempe, at fowerteene pence a dousen to be ready beaten to my hand, if I may have worke and ynough from tyme to tyme, and not to want. Soe desiring your answere * *

Your servaunt to Command

James Browne.

CCCXXIX. *Examination before Justices*

Hall Papers IX, No. 99. [15 March 1630/1.] The said examineth being demanded who did perswade him to come to Mr Maior to demand worke of him or mayntenance sayth that Richard Hardye came to him the last night and asked him whether he would with him and others goe to Mr Maior he sayd he would not be the first nor the last, and confesseth he was there this morninge with the sayd Hardie William Clarke Lancelot Collison William Patch Thomas Warner Robert Buresbye Thomas Grime John Hanshawe [blank] Frogmorten.

He allso Confesseth that Thomas Wood the joyner would have geven him iiijd. to have wrought with him to day but he would not under vd.

CCCXXX. *Meeting of Mayor and Brethren*

Hall Papers VIII, No. 522. [?1630.] It is agreed by a generall Consent that the xxxli. layd forth by Mr Blythe for procuringe the Kings hand to the New Charter for the Towne, shall be presently sent by the Chamberlyns of the Towne to Mr Recorder and by him to be delyvered to Mr Blyth upon the delyverie of the Bill assigned with the Kings hand.

CCCXXXI. *Opposition to proposed Charter*

Loose Papers, Press 24. 5.

[Objections to inclusion of Bishop's fee in the borough.

1. Court Baron of Manor would be in conflict with borough courts. 2. Tenants in Bishop's fee and officers in Leicester would come into conflict. 3. Diminution of power of County Justices. 4. Tradesmen in Bishop's fee would be deprived of their trade. 5. Eliz: charter safeguarded existing rights and privileges.]

Sixtli the Charter being attempted by the towne of Leicester in the same manner as it is now and obteined without the consent of the Lord of the manner of Bishoppes fee in 3^o Jacobi was afterwards upon much and great debate after the passing of the same cancelled and made voyde as it appeareth by the Record.

Seventhli there was a new Charter in 7 Jacobi obteyned by the Burrough of Leicester wherein by reason of the resolucion above mencioned after so long debate they doe not any waies endeavour to include Bishoppes fee nor the Tennants nor Inhabitants of the same.

[Answers to exceptions against the new Charter.]

It is provided in the new draught that all such persons as now inhabit there shall freelye exercise their trade without restraint but such as hereafter come thither are to become free men and soe to exercise their trade.

That Charter doth not appeare to be surrendered onlie there is the Lord Bruce his name (then Master of the Rowles) written in the margent of the Recordes with out any expression wherefore neither doe wee make any mencion of that Charter in the newe, nor of divers other Charters which have beene both of late and long sithence graunted to that Corporacion by divers of his Maiesties pregenitors being teadious to recite and not pertinent.

There is noe cause to procure a graunt of that which was formerly graunted but confirmacion of it, and an addition of the same power there which they have in the ancient Burrough for their better government with a salvo iure to the King and all other persons.

[The reasons given by the Borough for maintaining the branch of their Charter for jurisdiction in Bishop's Fee. Then follows the same reasons as are given in many other papers such, for example, as the nearness of Bishop's Fee, etc.]

There is in the feildes called the Bishoppes fee or St Margaretts feildes about 40 yardlandes whereof the Earle of Devon haveing lately purchased the manner of Bishoppes Fee hath 20 yardlandes or there aboutes the rest belongs to severall freeholders Edward Dent, Robert

Greene Christopher Sutton and others. But for the houses of habitacion the Earle hath not anie there save 2 Cottages lately erected.

[Inclusion of Bishop's fee is necessary for good government of town : "malefactors may easilie escape the due course of the lawe by stepping into that place, noe Justices of peace dwelling there, nor anie within 3 or 4 myles."]

There are in Leicester 6 Justices. The Recorder must "by their Charter" be a man learned in the law. The town is divided into Wards in each of which there is an Alderman, Constable and Thirdborough and in some wards there are more of the latter.]

In theise places adiacent to the towne are manie obscure and some unlicensed Alehouses where great and mannie disorders are dayly committed and especeallie in the nighte and on the Saboath dayes many notorious Theives Cutpurses and Roagues there harbored and soe escape often the due course of Justice, the Constables themselves being manie of them alehouse Keepers and principall entertainers of such malefactors.

In the place called the Newarke heretofore a Collegiate Church is claymed a kind of Sanctuarie or exemption from all government wherein is frequently harbored Papists non Conformists and Sectaries, they account themselves in noe parische nor would be under anie government There is neither Constable nor Churchwarden to make presentments of anie offence.

CCCXXXII. Two petitions to Mayor and Aldermen

Hall Papers VIII, No. 37. [No date.] Sheweth that whereas by reason of his great chardge of Children and the scaretie of work for a long season your Peticioner hath beene enforced to Pawne all his howshould stufte to divers severall parties within the said Burrough for and towards his and their maintennance but his not able to redeeme the same howshould stufte from the parties it is pawnded unto, the same alsoe being muche more worth then the money which hee borrowed upon the same Wee therefore humbly craveth your Worshipps would be pleased to cause the parties which hath his said goods to bring the same to bee viewed and prised att reasonable rates and the surplusage thereof to bee given to your said Peticioner towards the releife of him and his familie And further alsoe that whereas your said Peticioner wanted ymployment in his trade neither is able to buye stufte to worke uppon. Hee likewise humbly prayeth your worshipps would take the same into your charitable consideracions and allow him a quantetie of stufte to worke upon and according as hee fynisheth his worke hee shall not onely pay for the said stufte but alsoe give your worshipps a true and iust accompt of the same, and of the needfull bestowing

and laying forth of the money by him received for any worke hee shall doe and sell over and above the price of the stiffe soe allowed him.

* * *

It is agreed that this peticioner shall have xls. lent him forth of the Chamber of the Towne to be delyvered to Mr Paule Abney and Robert Winfeild to be layd out to set him to worke.

Hall Papers VIII, No. 112. [No date.] Mr Maior of this Borough of Leicester and the Justices of the peace there, doe streightly chardge and comand all persones whatsoever dwelling within this Borough of Leicester and liberties thereof that they eyther kill or safely keepe up all such doggs and Catts as they have: so as the same doe not goe abroade during the tyme of daunger of sicknesse and doe hereby let them knowe that if any doggs or catts be seene or found abroade, yt shall be lawfull for any one to kill them.

And they doe further chardge and Comand that all persones which keepe any swine, shall keepe the same within their houses and groundes and not suffer them to goe abroade and if any be found abrode in the streetes or lanes yt shall be lawfull for any one to impound them and take for everie swine so impounded 2d. for everie offence contrarie to this order.

And also they doe chardge and Comand that everie householder within this Borough and liberties thereof shall presently cleanese the streetes of all dunge and filthe and shall so keepe the same cleane hereafter upon payne of imprisonment of everie one offendinge herein.

CCCXXXIII. *Petition of Thomas Atkins, Beadle*

Hall Papers IX, No. 132. [No date.] Sheweth that whereas your said poore peticioner haveing served your worshipes in the said place by the space of seaven yeares past and hath received ijs. vjd. a weeke for his paynes untill now of late that the parishes of St Maries and All Saints have refused to pay him his weeklye wages so that now he hath but is. viijd. a weeke which will not find him bread in this hard tyme That therefore your Worships would be pleased to give order that your poore peticioner may have the wages he formerly had etc.

It is agreed this peticioner shall have vjs. viijd. paid by the Chamberlyns for his present releife untill other order be taken.

[He petitioned when he had only served a year, c.f. 187. Another petition 256, another 315. This latter petition was from his wife after his death. She urges that she had "become much indebted unto Thomas Taylor Baker for bread for the sustenance of your said peticioner and her charge of children." Grants were made each time.]

CCCXXXIV. *The question of the relation of the Bishops fee to county and borough*

Loose Papers, *Press* 22. 18. 11. The nowe Maior of Leicester is at this present and soe theis xvij^e yeeres last past [hath] beene an Inhabitante and dweller in the Byshoppes fee, and by the Borough of Leicester chosen to serve the office of Maior of the Borough himselfe seeyng the Justices of the Countie of Leicester to enter and meddle with Jurisdiction theire and therefore perswaded himselfe that he ought not [to] Serve the saide office of Maior in respecte the said Countie Justices challenge Jurisdiction there, and therefore utterlie refussed the said office. Thereupon the said elected Maior moaved the Earle of Huntingdon that his Lordshipp would bee A meanes hee might bee discharged of the office yf the saide Bysshoppes fee bee out of Jurisdiction of Leicester The saide Earles answere thereunto was: that hee thincketh the said fee is within the Jurisdiction of Leicester, And therefore advised the nowe Maior to take upon him the said office, and execute the same as other Townes men in his place hathe formerlie done As one M^r George Wadland the Earles Solicitor can better informe your honour therein And therefore humblie intreate your honor to be A meanes to the Countie that we maie peaceablie enioye his Jurisdiction theire according to our Charter.

Press 24. 1. 2. Privy Council considers petition *re* conflict of town and county jurisdiction in Bishops Fee and refers the matter to the Earl of Carlisle M^r Trear and M^r Sergeant Cooke *Feb. 3 1631.*

CCCXXXV. *Chamberlains' Accounts**Other receipts.*

Item receaved of M^r Roger Cotes Maior which he tooke of certayn Maulsters for theire fynes upon severall presentments against theire killnes iiiij*l.* vis. viij*d.*

Fees wages etc.

Item payed to Moses Andrewe for mending the scolding Carte and other worke done at the hall is. iiiij*d.*

Item payed to Robert Couldwell for remouinge the poore mens box at M^r Ives * * and mending of an other at M^r Goodfell * * viij*d.*

Item payed to Thomas Bradshawe for his charges in a suite for freedome from toll at Northampton by order of the same Common Hall as appears by his bill of Costs i*li.* xvijs. vjd.

Guifts to Messingers etc.

[Numerous gifts of wine to Preachers.]

Repayres.

Item payed to Moses Andrewe for worke done by himself and his man at the stayres goinge up into the horse faior is. vid.

CCCXXXVI. *Note concerning Trinity Hospital*

Hall Papers IX, No. 185. [20 April 1631.] (Names of new inhabitants.) Memorandum that since the tyme of M^r Smith being Maior and Master of the howse as abovesaid there hath beene and is seaven taken into the said howse and are appointed places therein as is aforesaid, and only one of the Borrough of Leicester In testimonie whereof wee whose names are subscribed the fowre men of the said howse for this yeare present have sett our hands

+ the marke of

John Stallington

Wylliam Bradford

John Ragg

+ the marke of

Richard Kinge.

CCCXXXVII. *Letter from Mayor to Privy Council*

Hall Papers IX, No. 128. [20 April 1631.] Right Honorable * * wee being requested by our neighbour Richard Inge to certifie the truthe of our knowledges touching his carriage in selling his Corne this yeare for the releife of the poore Wee the Maior and Justices of the Burrough of Leicester * * certifie your Honors, that the said Richard Inge havinge barlye of his owne growing did sell in the market of Leicester betwixt the Six and twentieth of November last to the xth of Januarie followinge Tenn quarters of barlye (viz everye markett daye about two quarters att the rate of fower shillings the strike whereas the market price was five shillings or above. And further for the relief of the poore in Leicester he delivered in, to be disposed of by the Towne, tenn quarters of barlye at fower shillings the strike Whereas the market price was then five shillings or neare thereabouts And alsoe that all this yeare since he hath beene and still is a constant keeper and server of the market with Corne everye market daye.

Thomas Smith Maior

William Bekers

Gilbert Fawsit

Roger Cotes.

[No. 129. [April 21.] Testimony of Inge's servants with regard to the above and in addition they affirmed that he served the market—with maulte and barley at the market price—as the market would serve to carry it away.

CCCXXXVIII. *Mayor and Aldermen*

Hall Papers IX, No. 140. [28 April 1631.] At this meetinge Mr Recorder beinge present there was proposed the request from the Earle of Huntingdon, by message sent by Mr Bolyvant Towne Clarke, for raysinge of the some of £300 to free all the Inhabitants of Leicester from their fines which might be imposed for not apparing at the Coronacion of his Majestie. To which it is now agreed there shall be answere retorne and delyvered by word to my Lord, that Mr Maior and his bretheren doe geve his honor most humble thanks for this and all other his honorable favors to the Corporacion and that they have met and considered of this his proposed, but cannot find that such a some can be raysed forth of the Corporation, and therefore desire his honors favor therein and the contynuance of his good respect to the Corporacion Mr Bolyvant the Towne Clarke is to delyver this answere.

CCCXXXIX. *Letter from Mr Bonnet Minister of S. Mary's*

Hall Papers IX, No. 202. [30 Aug. 1631.] This is to certifie your worshipes that whereas this poore man Raph Turlington of the parish of St Maries is uniustly accused and falsely slandered by some of the people of the Old Hospitall as hee conceiveth (who as your worshipes well knowe are most of them given to invent false tales) that he is a Recusant and neither loves the Church nor receiveth the Communion Now the truth is that I have knowne him theise xvij yeares last past to be both a diligent frequenter of divine service and sermons and also duly to have received the holy Sacrament of the Supper as often as occasion was offered. And this he has done as duly as any other of my parishoners.

CCCXL. *Resolutions of Mayor and Aldermen*

Hall Papers IX, No. 264. [26 Dec. 1631.] M^d this day being St Stephens Day hath beene aunciently used as a day to ware scarlet Mr John Norrice now Maior went to the parish Church of St Martin in his blacke gowne contrarie to an auncient Order made for the wearinge of scarlet at certayne tymes then [illegible] appoynted for which he forseyted xs. accordinge to the said Order which was by those of his brethren above named demanded of him and he then promised to paye.

CCCXLI. *Petition of Countess Dowager of Devon*

Hall Papers unbound, B No. 118. [No date.] To ye Right Honourable the Lords of his Maiestyes most honorable Privye Councell.

The humble peticion of Christian Countesse Dowager of Devon. Sheweth.

That whereas your peticioner standeth seised for ye time of her life of ye Mannor of Bishopps fee in ye County of Leicester unto which there is A Courte Leete and Court Baron belonging, Therein unto your peticioners younger sonne Charles Cavendish and ye heires males of his bodie: which said Mannor being adioyninge upon ye Borough of Leicester The Maior and Burgesses of that Towne unreasonably affecting to inlarge their owne by encroaching upon ye libertyes of others have of late tyme endeavoured to procure A new Charter to accomplish ye same; But failing therein and being iustlie reected upon due apprehencion of thinconveniencies which it would produce they seem to have laid aside that ambition Yet nevertheles without any new charter or good warrant so to doe They have of late frequentlie violently tumultuously and riotously entered into ye said Mannor of Bishoppes fee, and there exercised Jurisdiccion in A braving and insulting manner by Comitting your peticioners tennants and ye residants there to prison, and imposing other ponishments upon them as yf the said Mannor were within their towne and Libertyes, Pretending they may so doe, But upon what grounds your peticioner neither knoweth nor can Learne, howbeit they threaten still to do ye Like, Whereby many tumults and uproares have arisen, and more are like to grow to ye disturbance and scandall of his Maiesties Peace and peaceable government and thoccacioninge of multiplicity of unequall double and crosse suits and persequeutions in lawe fitt to bee prevented The rather for that ye said Maior and Burgesses being of great wealth and power in their owne towne where ye assises is usually kept as allso in ye parts adioyning And through their too much interest in thaffection of Undersheriffs Jurors and other inquisitors requisitt to be used about ordinary tryalls at Lawe are like utterlie to surprize and oppresse such poore people as are for ye most parte personally to bee the parties in such tryalls; The said Townesmen boasting allready, as yf they had obteyned some great victory therein; Howbeit ye Justices of ye County of Leicester who have allwayes rightfully exercised Jurisdiccion in Bishopps fee do still continue so to doe whereby ye matter growethe to concerne severall Jurisdicccions and ye Quyet thereof which is A Point of State fitt for your Lordshippes hearing and order.

In consideracion of all which premisses and for preservacion of his Maiesties Peace and Preventing thinconveniences and mischeifs aforesaid; May it please your Lordshippss to take order for ye staying of ye said Maior and Burgesses from exercising their pretended libertyes within ye said Mannor of Bishoppes fee and stay of Legall proceedings touching the same untill your Lordshipps have hearde and examined ye trueth of ye premisses. And there upon also to settle such A Course agreeable to State and Justice that neither your peticioner nor her sonne, nor thinhabitants of Bishoppes fee aforesaid may lye open to such, unequall Double or crosse suits and persequucions as now they doe; Nor ye Justices of ye County of Leicester bee affronted or disturbed in their proceedings as of late they have been.

And your peticioner will duelie pray for your Lordshippes prosperitey.

[The Privy Council refer the matter to the Lord Privy Seal, the Lord Chamberlain, the Earl of Carlisle, M^r Trear and M^r Coke and in the interim prohibit the Mayor and Burgesses of Leicester from exercising jurisdiction in the Bishop's fee.
Feb. 3, 1631/2.]

CCXLII. *Judgment in dispute concerning the Bishop's Fee*

Hall Papers unbound, B No. 126. [4 May 1632.] At the Court at Whitehall the 4th of May 1632.

Present.

Lord Keeper	Earl of Bridgwater
Lord Archbishop of Yorke	Earl of Danby
Lord Treasurer	Earl of Kelly
Lord Privye Seale	Lord Viscount Faulklande
Lord Greate Chamberlain	Lord Bishop of London
Lord Chamberlain	Lord Cottington
Earl of Salisbury	M ^r Treasurer

M^r Sergeant Cooke.

[Statement of dispute and inconvenience caused by it.]

The cause thus standinge the Board thought fitt to sett some Order in yt, and therefore referred the examinacion of this business to certaine Committees of this Board to examine both the right of the cause and the usage thereof.

And the said Committees Have this Day made reporte unto the Board That yt did clearely appeare that the said Mannor of Bishoppes fee was a distincke Libertie from that of the Borough of Leicester the one being parcell of the possessions of the Dutchy of Lancaster (which the wholle Borough of Leicester was) the other some tymes parcell of

the possessions of the Bishopp of Lincolne And thereupon was called the Bishopps Fee in the tyme of the Dukes of Lancaster and at this Day the Borough is Dutchy and the other Guildable land with the rest of the County Soe that the said Mannor of Bishopps fee neither is nor at any tyme hath beene parte of or within the Borough of Leicester nor of right within the government or Jurisdiccion of the said Borough although the Maior and Burgesses of later tyme have attempted to exercise Jurisdiccion there as yf the Bishopps fee standinge within the Towne of Leicester were parte of the Borough of Leicester and to make yt to be soe those of the Borough of Leicester heretofore in the tyme of the Lord Elsmere late Lord Chancellor endeavoured to renew their Charter and to include within their Libertye by expresse words the Mannor of Bishopps fee and all the houses and tenements of Bishopps fee to be within the Borough of Leicester and the Inhabitants and resients therein to be putt under the government and Jurisdiccion of the Maior and Aldermen of Leicester as other parts of the Borough of Leicester. Whereat the Justices of the County beinge agreed complained themselves to the Lord Elsmere whoe upon the examinacion of the matter refused to lett their Charter passe in that sorte and like wise of late tyme they of the Borough of Leicester endeavoured and laboured to have renewed their Charter with the like Clause includeinge the Bishopps fee in Leicester to be under the government of the Maior and Aldermen of Leicester. Whereupon the now Lord keeper desired to know by what right they could clayme yt, but not beinge satisfied therein thought not fitt to passe their Patent in that kinde Which Reporte of the Committees beinge related to this Board their Lordshipps generally concurred in opinion with the Committee.

Whereupon yt was this Day ordered that the said Maior Bayliffs and Burgesses of Leicester nor any of them nor any of their Officers or Ministers shall not at any tyme hereafter exercise any Jurisdiccion within the said Mannor of Bishopps fee or the lymitts thereof nor upon any of the Inhabitants thereof But that the said Mannor of Bishopps fee and the tennants Inhabitants Officers Resients therein be and continew absolutely exempte from the said Borough of Leicester as of longer tyme yt hath beene taken and used and be held to be within the government and Jurisdiccion of the County of Leicester and all suits attempted or to be attempted by occasion of the said Controverted Jurisdiccion to cease and be forborne And likewise all Indictments on either side concerninge the premisses which have bin found shall cease and be noe further prosecuted.

CCCXLIII. *Examination before Justices*

Hall Papers IX, No. 321. [27 June 1632.] James Sneape and John Yates affirme that Thomas Davie at the said John Yates his shopp upon occasion of speech of the choyce of a Seriant and that my lord of Huntingdon had writ in the behalfe of on Mr Ingham, the said Davie said push if the Towne wold be ruled by him he would not care a fart[hing] for my Lords letter nor never a noble mans letter in England. And upon further speech the said Yates said my Lord of Stanford was about to sell his house whereupon the said Davie wished that all the land that he had was on sale for he never had done good nor ever would doe for he had undone twoe or three Townes.

Sarah Heyricke affirmeth that upon Saturday was a Sennight she being in W^m Cookes shopp heard Thomas Davie say that it was longe of the Countes of Devon that eggs was so deere and further sayd that the said Countesse had made a vowe never to come to St Martins Church againe and if others were of his mind she should be kept out if she came thether or words to that effect.

[To appear at Assizes mean time bound over.]

CCCXLIV. *Meeting of Mayor etc. Resolution*

Hall Papers IX, No. 273. [17 Jan. 1634/5.] It is agreed that Mr Bolyvant Towne Clarke shall goe to London in some convenient tyme the next weeke to take advice touchinge the Townes busines with Sneape whether to bring downe any triall yea or noe And to search for Records concerninge the Bishoppes fee how the same was conveyed to the Crownie or from the Crownie by the Bishoppe of Lincoln or Sir Richard Maurison or any others and to make any other or further search as Counsell shall advise.

CCCXLV. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1630-31**Other receipts this yeare.*

Imprimis Receaved of Mistress Ellis for money given to the Towne by her husbands last will and testament CCl*i.*

Item receaved of Mr Bonnetts money to sett the poore on worke xli.

Fees Wages and other things.

Item paid to a man which was sent for to directe how to knock hempe in Bridewell vjs. viijd.

Item payed to twoe laborors for carryinge the hempe from the Towne Hall thether iiijd.

Item payed to Christopher Rogers for OO weight of hempe to set the poore on worke vli.

Item geven to a stranger by Mr Maiors appoynment he havinge Letters of Request from the Kinge for losses receaved by the Turks vs.

Item geven to one James Constable a Yorkshireman haveinge had greate losses at Sea by the Turkes iijs.

CCCXLVI. *Letter to Privy Council*

Hall Papers IX, No. 325. [9 June 1632.] Right Honorable Our most humble dueties remembered etc. We receaved your honors Letters dated the last day of April 1632. Whereby your honor did require us to consider how many may well use the trade of sellinge Tobacco within this Borough and to make choice of honest and fit persones for that purpose And to certifie theire names unto your honor with all convenient speede. Wee whose names are subscribed the Maior and Aldermen of the said Borough by and with the consent of the Comon Counsell of the said Borough (accordinge to your honors direcccion in and by the said Letters) have considered who and how many wee accompte and thinke fit to rent and sell Tobacco within this Corporacion whose names together with the trades they now use are here under expressed which in obedience to your honors Command and for the better furtherance of his Maiesties service therein we with what convenient speed we possibly could, doe hereby certifie unto your honor, leaveing the premisses to your honors wisdomes and grave Consideracions And most humbly take our leaves.

Leicester 9^o Junii 1632.

Your honors in all Duetie
to be Commanded.

William Turvill Mercer

Nathaniell Tapper Hosier

Alexander Baker Grocer

Andrew Reanor Ironmonger

Edmund Cradocke Mercer

James Fox Grocer

Alexander Inge Ironmonger

Will: Cooke Fishmonger

Richard Foster Mercer.

CCCXLVII. *Extract from Letter sent to Tho: Lord Coventrie*

Hall Papers IV, No. 350. [16 Aug. 1632.] Right Honorable * * upon Saturday last wee receaved your honors letters * * And have * * sent up our Charter and other Writings by this Bearer to geve your honor satisffacion touchinge our Right and clayme to all the vicariall Tythes of the Church or parish of S. Maries in Leicester which wee now houlde in fee farme by the grante of Queene Elizabeth and which have for the space of Lx yeares and above beene enjoyed by this Corporacion and others that have beene farmers thereof from the said Queene and her progenitors for severall tearmes of yeares who have enjoyed the same peaceably and soe this Corporacion hath done ever since the expiracion of those Leases, Whereof wee hope your honor will take due consideracion.

[No. 231. [Oct. 24, 1631.] M^r Recorder is to find out whether "any bodie be about to passe the vicaridge and vicarial tythes of S. Maries."]

CCCXLVIII. *Extract from Letter relating to S. Mary's*

Hall Papers IX, No. 239. [No date.] Wee understand from M^r Bonnet that he heard yesterday there is somme one labouring to obtayne a graunte from the Lord Keeper of the vicaridge of St Maries whereby he is in danger to be deprived of his present possession and the Towne may be questioned about ye vicariall tythes graunted to the Towne as part of theire fee farme and for which wee pay to his Maiestie xxj*li.* per annum.

[Goes on to tell M^r Chapman(?) to see M^r Brett "Clerke of the presentacions to the Lord Keeper" and to take any other steps he can to enquire into the matter.]

CCCXLIX. *Order from Mayor*

Hall Papers IX, No. 597. [19 June 1634.] It is this day ordered that in respecte that one William Clarke of the parish of St Nicholas Laborer is destitute of habitacion. And for that Informacion is now geven by the Overseers of the poore of the same parish that James Kirke father in lawe to the said Clarke's wyfe holdeth a house from the Towne and hath convenient roome wherein they may live Wherunto he hath receaved one Sutton an idle luide fellowe without consent of any Magistrate therefore the said William Clarke and his familie

shall have habitacion in the said James Kirkes house the same to be equally devided at the discretion of the Aldermen of that Warde and the Overseers of the poore of the said parish And Kirke to choose which parte he will have. And the said Clarke to paye the Townes whole Rent And it is further Ordered that the said Sutton shall provide for him selfe elsewhere or else be committed to the house of Correccion.

Hugh Watts Maior
Nicholas Gilliott.

CCCL. Resolution of Commissioners

Hall Papers IX, No. 487. [20 June 1633.] It is agreed that Mr Angell shall be spoken unto by M^r Maior to goe to the Lord Bishope for his Lorships consent about the removinge of the books forth of the Chancell into the new library, and his charges to be borne by the Towne.

CCCLI. Resolutions of the Twenty Four

Hall Papers IX, No. 503 b. [9 Aug. 1633.] At this meetinge there hath beene speech concern[ing] the right of Comon for horses and mares in the [pasture] called St Margarets Cow pasture heretofore used by the Inhabitants [of the] Towne which is by [some] of the Inhabitants of the said parish of late in [illegible] opposed and decayed It is nowe agreed [by the] generall consent that the Inhabitants of the [said] towne shall Contynue there use of Comon as [heretofore] they have done, and if any Impoundinge be or any accion be brought against them or any of these [then] the charges to be borne [out] of the Chamber of the Towne.

CCCLII. Letter from Bishop of Lincoln

Hall Papers IX, No. 517. [18 Sep. 1633.] After my verye heartiest Commendacions and best wishes unto you. I thanke you right heartilye and all the Towne of Leicester for your greate care and charge in prvidinge and adorninge soe convenient a place for the Librarye there, and especiallye for your resolution upon the motion I made unto you to returne the olde Roome, unto that Relligious use, it was formerlye buylded and designed for, which is, to be the Chauncell or Quire of your faire and Beautifull Churche I praye you sute your owne time

betweene this and All Sainctes to remoave the Bookes, into the Newe place provided for them, and to trimme up and adorne the other Roome for your Chauncell both with faire doores to open into your Churche, and some steps or assents on the upper end thereof for your Communion Table to stand in, att such tymes, as it shall not be used in the participation of those sacred Mysteryes, for att those tymes, the Lawe doth appoint it shalbe sett, in the most convenient place either of the Chauncel or Bodye of the Churche, whereunto the people maye have best accesse, and where the Minister that officiates, may be most audiblye heard which as I am informed is the place where is stood before Lett it therefore at such tymes be placed there againe untill by Complaynt of the Minister or Churchwardens inconveyencie thereof I shall give order to the Contrary.' Only both then and at all other Tymes my earnest suite unto you, is that your Table maye bee fairelye covered and adorned wheresoever it stands that whereas all men that are not extremelye malicious must needes Commend your wise and discretee manadginge of your Civill [illegible] and people maye have no occasion to tax your disposeing of Church Affaires. And I assure you that a little charge in this kinde wold bee well placed beinge a thinge acceptable to God and to the Kinge and to all good People. Nowe for the busines of the Librarye if you shalbe pleased to make as good a Stypende as you can spare to the keeper thereof I doe not doubt but by the Noblenes and Charitiye of the Nobilitye Gentrye and Clergy of that Country the stalles will fill apace * * *

Your verye lovinge frend and Bishoppe

Jo. Lincolne.

CCCLIII. "To the most reverend father in God the now Lord
Archbishop of Canterbury's Grace"

Hall Papers IX, No. 575. [1633-34.] May it please your Grace to be certified that upon the xijth of this instant Jaunuary being the Saboth Day Informacion was geven unto me Hugh Watts Maior of the Borough of Leicester by Reginald Burde Clarke that certayne persones were assembled together in the house of one Robert Erick Mercer in Leicester in the eveninge of the same daye and there did repeate a Sermount and performe other divine exercizes contrarie to the lawes of the Realme and then shewed unto me a warrant under the hand of your grace and others his Maiesties Commissioners for causes Ecclesiasticall, for attaching of all such persones as did holde

any such Conventicles or unlawfull meetinge Whereupon in obedience to the said warrant I sent a Constable and others with the said Mr Burd in to the place aforesaid from whence they brought before me one James Erick Clerk vicar of Thornton in the County of Leicester, who upon examinacion did confesse that in the house of Richard Birkhead who married his sister where he had lodged the night before and intended to lodge that night in the presence of some of his neire kinsfolk he did then and there repeate the Sermon which he had that morninge preached at St Maries in Leicester and that they did singe a psalme before and one other after the said repetition All which I humbly submitt to your gracious censure and rest.

Your Graces to be commanded.

CCCLIV. *Resolution of Common Hall*

Hall Papers IX, No. 545. [No date.] *Item* it is agreed that the Seriants at Mace shall not at any tyme goe abroade with any Boxe or other thinge to crave or begg any thinge of any man Nor any of the Beadles of this Borough.

**CCCLV. *Fines inflicted on those who refuse to serve
as Chamberlains etc.***

Hall Papers IX, No. 353. [No date.] Thomas Webster brought in Chamberlyn and pro Communitate desireth sparinge and doth submit to his fine which is cessest at xls.

Thomas Pilkington chosen Chamberlyn desireth sparinge and doth submit to his fine which is cessest at vli.

Thomas Pallmer Baker Chosen Chamberlyn pro Communitate desireth sparinge and doth submit to his fine which is cessest at vli.

Thomas Bursuall pro communitate.

Alexander Baker pro [*illegible*].

It is agreed that the old Chamberlyns shall finishe the library and be allowed the Charge upon their accompt.

CCCLVI. *Common Hall resolutions*

Hall Papers IX, No. 257. [No date.] It is agreed that the Aldermen of everie ward shall cause his Constable to geve warninge to everie housholder to goe or send one or tow to the Sermon on the weeke day accordinge to a former order.

CCCLVII. *Extracts from letter to Chancellor of Duchy*

Hall Papers IX, No. 471. [No date.] Right Honorable * *
It pleased God about nyne monethes past to take to his mercie one
Mr John Bonnet Curat of the parish Church of St Maries in Leicester
who did receave from his Maiestie forth of his highnes revenues of
the Duchie of Lancaster one yearely stipend of viij*l.* which was all
the constant or certayne allowance that he or any other Curate have
had for servinge the same cure tyme out of mind Sithence the death
of which said Mr Bonnet one John Willowes Mr of Arts by collation
or other approbacion of the Bishop of this Dioces hath undertaken the
charge of the said Curatshipp being a man both conformable and a
verie able Preacher and hath performed the same to the greate comfort
not onely of the parishoners there but of many other the Inhabitants
within this Borough. Our humble suite therefore unto your honor is
that your honor wilbe pleased to confirr the said Stipend of viij*l.* per
annum upon the said Mr John Willowes so beinge as he shall contynue
in the said Curatshipp. * *

CCCLVIII. *Resolutions of some meeting*

Hall Papers IX, No. 259. [No date.] It is agreed that the parishe
of S. Martins shall have and mayntane a severall Bedell to looke to
Wanders and Beggers and the parishe of St Margaretts and St Maries
to have eyther of them a Bedle, and All Saints and St Nicholas one
to be maynteyned at the severall parishes charges.

CCCLIX. *Petition to Mayor, Justices etc.*

Hall Papers VIII, No. 307. [No date.] Whereas in the mayraltie
of Mr Robert Gillott deceased, your peticioner John Wood butcher lent
according to his estate six shillings of lawfull monye of Englande at
that tyme supposed to inclose certaine grounds to and for the use and
benefitt of this Corporacion which intended worke is not yet performed.
Now therefore your humble peticioner intreateth the monye to be
repayed as to others in the same case it hath bene done * *

It is not thought fit to graunt this peticioners request least the
example be dangerous but in some other thinge the Towne will respect
him.

CCCLX. *Preparations for royal visit*

Hall Papers IX, Nos. 599 and 599a. [No date.] Item it is agreed that the xxiiij^{tie} such as have beene Maiors shall be redie upon the said 9th day of August in theire Scarlet gownes and Tippetts and the rest of the 24^{tie} with faire decent gownes and suits and likewise the 48^{ti} in black suits black gownes and cuffe bandes at the Guild Hall at one of the Clock in the afternoone to accompanie Mr Maior to such place as shalbe appoynted to attend the King and Queenes Maiesties coming into Leicester upon paine of everie one of the xxiiij^{tie} makeing defaulte to forfeit xl*l.* and everie one of the xlviij^{ti} makeinge defaulte to forfeit vi*l.*

Item it is agreed that there shalbe raysed by taxacion to be made and assessed by Mr Maior and the rest of the Brethren which have beene Maiors of this Borough towards the defrayinge of the charges of paintinge butifyinge the 4 gates with the Kinges armes Officers fees and other charges theis sommes following vizt Amongst the Companie of the 24 30*l.* and forth of the Companie of the 48 30*l.* And amongst the Cominers and Inhabitants 40*l.* at the leaste And the rest of the Charge to be borne forth of the Chamber of the Towne And if any being taxed thereunto doe refuse to pay the same upon reasonable demand then Mr Maior and the Justices to comitt to warde everie such persone soe refusing untill they have payed the same or otherwise to deale with them as in theire discreasions they shall think fittest.

Item it is ordered that everie householder within this Borough haveing notice geven unto him by the Aldermen Constable of the Ward or Overseers of the highwayes shall forthwith cause his pavement before his streeete dore to be well and decently paved so as the same be done and finished at leaste one weeke before the comeing of the Kinge and Queens Maiesties to Leicester * * upon payne of everie householder makeing defaulte hereof to forfeit xl*s.* of lawful money of England to be levied of their goods by distresse and sale thereof and for want of distresse the offender to be committed to ward or otherwise dealt with as Mr Maior and the Justices shall in theire discreasions think fittest.

Item it is agreed that the foure gates of the Towne shall be fairely boutified with the Kinges Armes upon them as formerly they have beene.

Item it is agreed that everie householder within this Borough of Leicester shall before the Kinge or Queenes cominge paynte and put or cause to be paynted and put the outsides of their houses in and with sum decent and convenient Colors as by the Aldermen of everie warde shall be thought meete.

CCCLXI. *Petition "of the poore freemen of this Borough of Leicester"*

Hall Papers IX, No. 600. [No date.] Humble shewing your Worshipps that whereas your said freemen have heretofore of Antiquie had freedome to depasture theire kyne after the discharge from your said Towne pasture from Lamas Day And now may it please your Worshipps your said poore freemen are altogether debarred from the said Comons within the said feildes of St Maries alias Grange lands and other soe called Insomuch that now of late tyme they have not onely with taken awaye by plowing up some parte of your said petitioners Commons But alsoe doe now absolutely deny your said petitioners of any Commons otherwise at all Nether will your said farmers Suffer your said supplicants suffer your said Comon Heardesmen to take any of theire Cattell upon the said Comons but doe eate upp your said petitioners Commons by sheepe, to the hurt of your worshipps said petitioners and the evill Order that may hereafter be produced which may be to the greate damage of your petitioners and theire posterity Soe desireing your Worshipps favoures in this case according to the donation or privilidge of your said petitioners they rest.

[Signed by 11 persons.]

CCCLXII. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1632-33**Fees Wages etc.*

*Item payed to John Cooper for his whole yeares wages for keepinge the Conduit pipes. iii*l*. xijs.*

[Various gifts to Irish people and to a Scotch Minister.]

*Item payed to Mr Browne by order of a Comon Hall which he layed out when he was Chamberlyn and was left out of his accounts per infortunium. xiiij*l*. vjs. viijd.*

Item payed in charges when wee were scited to the Commissaries Courte to appeare there about St Maries Chansell Windowe is. viijd.

Item geven to a Bohemian Minister by Mr Maiors appoyntment. vs.

*Item payed to Mr Angell which he layed out for bookees for the Librarie in Mr Norris his Maioraltie ij*l*. viijs. id.*

Item payed in charges goeing to Buckden with Mr Angell to the Lord Bishopp about the Librarie geven away in the house and for horsehyre ijli. vjs. vijd.

[*Hospitality Payments.*]

Bishop of London, Sir John Bale, and Mr Sutton Dean of Derry.]

Repayres.

Item payed for laths neayles Reade heare and Crests for the place for Mr Freemans Records ili. ixs. viijd.

Charges about repayring of St Maries Chauncell Windowes.

Imprimis payed for free stone for that work ili. ijs.

Item payed for carrying of the same stone ijli. xs.

Item payed to Masons for workmansipp there iiijli. viijs.

Item payed to Smythes for Iron barres for the same Chauncell windowe ijli.

Item payed for glaseing the same windowe iiijli. xs.

Item payed for oyle used about the same is.

Item payed for one load of lyme for that worke ixs.

Item payed for coarde used about the same worke ijs.

Item payed for two boards there used ijs.

Item payed for six stickes of lyme more used about the same windowe ijs. vid.

Charges about the Librarie.

Item payed to Sheene Coclile and Reade for carryinge the bookees out of the Chauncell into the Librarie is. ijd.

CCCLXIII. *Resolutions of some meeting*

Hall Papers IX, No. 653. [16 July 1634.] *Imprimis* it is agreed that there shalbe provided two boules of pure golde of the value of Cl*l*i. or thereabouts of equall value as neere as may be with the Kinge and Queenes Maiesties pictures on them with the globe and Septer in the Kings hands to be geven to theire Maiesties at theire cominge to Leicester, on the [illegible] th of August next.

Item it is agreed to send to the Right Honorable the Earle of Huntingdon a present of wyne and suger worth betwixt 4 or 5li. in respecte of his honors greate care of this Towne cominge in persone to view the Church of St Martyns and his furtherance toward theire Maiesties entertainments.

Item it is agreed that all fees whatsoever due to any of the Kinge and Queenes Maiesties officers in theire highnes progresse at their cominge to Leicester shall be payed by the Chamberlyns forth of the Chamber of the Towne.

CCCLXIV. *Resolutions of Common Hall*

Hall Papers IX, No. 655. [25 July 1634.] At this Comon Hall it is agreed that there shalbe xl^{te} or more able and fit men * * appoynted by M^r Maior that shall attend with halberds for a guard in the streets at the Kinge and Queenes cominge into Leicester and to supply the night watch [*illegible*] the Courte with some others of the Companie of the xlviij.

Item it is agreed that all the Constables and Thirdbarowes shall like wise attend * * to doe such service as shalbe enioyned them and that they shall have all [*illegible*] made a lyke at the Townes charge.

Item it is agreed that M^r Bolyvant the Towne Clarke shall have a gowne at [*illegible*] at the Townes charge but this to be no presedent hereafter.

CCCLXV. *Letter from George Wadland about the Stewardship*

Hall Papers X, No. 32. [19 Dec. 1634.] Right Worshipful * * that yf you doe admytt of any Attorney to be putt in election for the Stewardshippe of your Towne, and not of lawyers called to the Barr, That then Your Worshippes wilbe pleased to vouche mee so muche favoure as to admytt of the one of my two sonnes to be one within the nomber of them. I desyre yt not for myselfe by reason of my age, and haveinge of one foote in the grave, but yf your worshippes wilbe pleased to elect the one of them unto the place, I will and doe hereby promyse to secure you that I myselfe will execute the same in his name so longe as yt shall please Almightye God to enable mee thereunto, and yourselves shall like well thereof * * * I have not sought for any Comendatorye letter, which yf I had done in tyme before an other, I am assured I should [have] obtainyd one from my honorable Lord and Master the Earle of Huntingdon, whose servant I have bene recorded in his booke for theis six and twenty yeares last past, and never sythence out of his favour.

CCCLXVI. *The Beadle's wages*

Hall Papers X, No. 51. [20 Dec. 1634.] Md that the Twelveth day of December 1634 Christopher Mabason is chosen to be Comon Badle of the Beggers for the whole Towne and is to have weekly for his wages from the severall parishes the somes following vitz.

of St Martyns parish	xd.
of St Margarets parish	vijd.
of St Maries parish	vijd.
of All Saints parish	iiijd.
of St Nicholas parish	iijd.

[Signed by Mayor and Aldermen.]

CCCLXVII. *Letter to Mr Robert Wright Bailiff*

Hall Papers X, No. 65. [22 Feb. 1634/5.] Mr Baliffe * * * Wee had this day a Courte where yow were expected to have made retourne of divers writts which were directed unto you summe for tryalls and others of importaunce but by reason of your not beinge there nor, any other authorized from or by you Justice is delayed They parties accompt them selves greatly wrounged and the Court is abused for which there is a fyne of Twenty Shillings sett uppon your heade for this dayes absence There is another Court appoynted this day Savenight and allso the Assizes are at hand therefore I would wish you to come presently over yf possibly you can or other wayes to appoyn特 summe able and sufficient man to supply your place for wee may not suffer the Court to be thus neglected yf by any meanes we can helpe it.

CCCLXVIII. *Letter to Lord Huntingdon about the Stewardship*

Hall Papers X, No. 50. [No date.] Right Honorable * * * your honor was pleased to recommend unto us your Servant Mr John Maior * * * And * * * he was one put in eleccion But it pleased God soe to direct that the greate part of the voyces did fall upon Mr John Onebey a Counsellor at Lawe (and it may be a man not unknownen unto your honor) which our eleccion wee hope your honor will not dislyke and the rather in respect your honor (when you had the first turne of Nominacion) did appoyn特 a man of lyke place neither doe wee doubt, but at the next Turne when, the nomination of a Steward for that place shall come to your honor that your honor wilbe pleased (for the good of the Corporacion) to appoynte the lyke in degree or sufficiencie to execute that office.

CCCLXIX. *Meeting of Mayor and Brethren*

Hall Papers X, No. 39. [7 ? 1634/5.] Att this meetinge beinge for the eleccion of a Steward after the death of John Freeman Esqr late Steward of this Borough John Onebey Esqr Counsellor was elected and chosen to be Steward of the said Borough duringe his life so that he doe come and live within this Borough and become a freeman of the same and take the accustomed oath and pay such fyne for the same his freedom as Mr Maior and the rest of the Companie shall appoynte.

CCCLXX. *Letter to Sir Miles Fleetwood*

Hall Papers IX, No. 593. [10 Jan. 1634/5.] Right Worshipful
* * Whereas wee perceave by a warrant under your hand and seale beareing date the third day of March 1631 that you did thereby authorize and appointe one Edmund Cooper surveyor (amongst other services) to admeasure and set out to this Corporacion of Leicester 20 Acres of ground in the Forrest of Leicester with some allottments of land to be allowed for high wayes to the end that the same might be settled and assured upon this Corporacion in perpetuity for which your worships care wee geve you most humble thanks which said 20 Acres with some small addission for the highwayes were by the said Edmund Cooper admeasured and set out accordinge to your Worships direccion by your said warrant. And was at the charge of the Corporacion Inclosed and hath beeene and is quietly enjoyed by the Townes Tennants who have beeene at greate charge in makeing good the highway lyinge through the same. Our humble suite to your worship therefore now is that you will be pleased to affoarde us your worships favour and furtherance for the setlinge of the said ground upon this Corporacion or such persons as they shall appoint. So not doubtinge of your worships favour etc.

CCCLXXI. *Resolutions of some meeting*

Hall Papers IX, No. 372. [No date.] It is agreed that the farmers of the grange shall procure the plot of ground in the Forrest appoynted for the grange to be ascertayned, and to make the way through it good answerable to the way made by Sir Henry Hastings. The towne allowinge them one halfe of the charges of makinge the waye and so to be kept by the farmors of the grange.

CCCLXXII. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1633-34**Gifts of Wine rewards etc.*

Item payed for iij gallons and ij quarts of sacke and ij galland and one quarter of Clarett sent to Mr Maiors house when the Countess of Huntingdons Corpse was there xvjs. iiid.

viijs. viijd.

The Charges of the Gifts presented to the Kinge and Queene at their Highnesse comeinge to Leicester with the fees and gratuities given to their Highnesse officers and servants and other charges thereto belonging.

Imprimis for twoe silver and guilt Boules which were presented to his Majestie wayinge one hundred thirty three ownces at 7s. the ownce 40*li.* 1*s.* 3*d.*

Item for a Bason and yure of Silver and Guilt fairely adorned with the Kinges Armes which were presented to the Queens Majestie wayinge one hundred twenty seaven ownces at 7s. the ownce 44*li.* 7*s.* 3*d.*

Item for three cases to putt the same in 1*li.* 15*s.* od.

Item for ingraveinge the Armes upon them 1*li.* 6*s.* od.

Item for losse in gold 1*li.* 10*s.* od.

Item given to the workmen 1*li.* 0*s.* od.

Item to Mr Kinge for guildinge the mace and the knobbes of the Chamberlins Staves ij*li.* 17*s.* 4*d.*

Item to twoe weomen that burnished the plate 0*li.* 1*s.* 6*d.*

Item for twoe flasketts to carry the plate in 3*s.* 6*d.*

Item paied for Canvas cordes to make the flaskett and to a porter to carry them to the Inne and to helpe to fitt them to the horse 3*s.* od.

Item my charges and John Burch and our horses 5*li.* 16*s.* od.

Item my horse hire twoe Journeys to London 1*li.* 6*s.* 8*d.*

Item paid for fees due to his Maties servants and Officers as appeares by a note of particulders under the hand of Mr Bartholomew one of His Maties servants 34*li.* 0*s.* od.

Item given to the Queenes Maties Couchman by Mr Maior's appointment ij*li.* 0*s.* od.

Item given more in gratuitys as appeareth by a bill 5*li.* 16*s.* 8*d.*

Item to Mr Lewin the Kings Maties Couchman as a gratuitye ij*li.* 0*s.* od.

Total 144*li.* 5*s.* 2*d.*

[Long list of other expenses of Royal visit.]

Repaires for the North Gate as followeth.

Item for twoe paires of greate hinges for the North gate. ijs. od.

Item for a Stocke locke to the North gate 1s. 4d.

Charges in painting at the several gates etc.

Imprimis to Richard Berisford for paintinge the Armes at the severall gates posts and reales at St Sundayes bridge and posts and reales at the horse faire.

Item paied to Richard Griffin for takeinge downe and settinge upp the severall armes and other woorke about the severall gates 14s. od.

Item paied to Franceys Martin for woorke done at the East Gate, South gate High Cross and Free Schoole 4li. os. od.

Item paied to John Cotes joyner for mendinge the Tables for the armes at the West and South gates 6s. od.

Extraordynary Charges.

Item paied to Mr Edward Blunt for the passage of the Countesse of Huntingdons Corps through his parish 1li. os. od.

[Hospitality payments. Lord Chesterfield.

Total receipts DCxliij*l.* vs. ij*d.*

Total payments DLxxvij*l.* viijs. ij*d.*]

CCCLXXXIII. Letter from Privy Council with regard to Ship Money

Hall Papers X, Nos. 81a, b, c. [12 Aug. 1635.] After our hartye Comendacions. Whereas his Maiestie hath sent you his Writt to provide one Shipp of fower hundred and fiftye tuns to be furnished with men Tackle, Municion Victualls and other Necessaries to be sett forth for the safeguard and defense of the Realme att the Charges of that Countye as by the said Writt appeareth. Wee are by his Maiesties expresse direcion and commandement to lett you know, that hee hath upon most important and Weightye reasons Concerneinge not only his own honor and the anncient renowne of this Nation, but the safetye of your selves and all his Subiects in these troublesome and Warlike tymes sent out the aforesaid wrigg to you, and the like to all the Countyes throughout the Kingdome, that as all are concerned in the mutuall defence of one another, Soe all might put to their helpinge hands for the makeing of such preparacions as (by the blessinge of God) may secure this Realme against those dangers and extremityes which have distressed other Nations and are the Comon effects of Warre, whensoever itt taketh a people unprovided. And therefore as his Maiesties doubteth not of the readynes of all his subiects to con-

tribute hereunto with Cheerfullnes and allacrytye, Soe hee doth especially require your Care and diligence in the ordering of this busines (soe much concerneinge his Maiestie and all his people) that noe inequalitye or miscarriage may either retard or disgrace the service which in itt self is soe iust honorable and necessarye for which cause wee have by his Maiesties direccion sent you together with the said Writt these ensueninge advices and instruccions for your better proceeding. First because you may bee unacquainted with the Charges of such maritime preparacions and the mistakeinge thereof might hinder the service Wee have thought good to lett you knowe that upon a due and iust calculacion wee finde that the charge of a Shipp of that burthen soe maid and furnished wilbe fower thousand five hundred pounds which you are to Levye accordinge his Maiesties desire And the intencion of the board with as much indifferencye and equalitie as possibly you can and is before expressed Nowe wee conceve that of the somme of the said fower thousand five hundred pounds the Burrough of Leicester may well beare twoe hundred pounds the residue beeinge assessed upon the rest of the Countye. Secondly when you have settled the generall assessment wee think itt fitt you subdivide the same and make particular Assessments in such sort as other Comon payments upon the Countrey are most usually subdivided and assessed And namely that you the said highe Sheriff divide the wholl Charge layd upon the County into hundrethes Lathes or other divisions and those into parishes and Townes And townes and parishes must be rated by the houses and lands lyinge within each parishe or Towne Saveinge that itt is his Maiesties pleasure that where there shall happen to bee any men of Abilitye by reason of gainefull trades greate stockes of money or other personall estates, whoe itt may be doe occupye little or noe landes And consequently in an ordinary land Scott would pay nothinge or very little such men be rated and assessed accordingly to their Worth and abilitye. And that the moneyes that shalbe levyyed upon such may bee apployed to the spareinge or easeinge of such as beeinge either of weake estate or charged with many Children or greate debts are unable to beare soe greate a charge as the land in their occupacion might require in an usuall and ordinary proporcione And concerninge the Clergie, albyitt, his Maiestie is resolved to maintaine all their due privilidges which they have enjoyed in the tyme of his Royall Progenitors yet because itt hath not hitherto beene made sufficiently [to] appeare to his Maiestie or this board what privilidges have beene allowed in former tymes touchinge payment and services of this nature, his Maiestie is

pleased that for the present you proceede to base and assess them for this service and Levye their assessemnts as you are authorized to doe of the rest of his Maiesties subiects with this care and caution, that you and your Ministers faile not to beare a due respect both to their persons and callinge, not sufferinge any inequalities or pressures to bee put uppon them and such your assessemnts and proceedinges his Maiestie resolueth shall not preijudice in the future to them or to any of their Rights and Privilidges which upon further search shalbe found due unto them.

Post script. You are presently uppon the receipt of these our letters to comunicate the same to the head officers of the Burrough of Leicester.

CCCLXXIV. *Letter concerning the levy of Ship money*

Hall Papers X, No. 124. [No date.] Right Worshipful * *
I would entreat you to acquainte Mr Secretarie Cooke that according to his Maiesties wrift and the directions from hym and other of his Maiesties privie Counsel I have Cessed and Collected within this Borrough of Leicester the some of 200*li.* towards the preparing and furnishing of one shippe for his Maiesties Service (which some of 200*li.* though it be a heavy Burden for this poore Corporacion) yet the same is ready upon the first intimacion And if you doe take order for paiement of the same it shalbe ready at your retorne or sooner if yow appointe haveing sufficient discharge for the same Soe leaveing etc.

CCCLXXV. *Meeting of Mayor and Commissioners*

Hall Papers X, No. 186. [28 Feb. 1635/6.] It is this daye ordered and agreed that whosoever shall take the sheepe pens shall not take for the standinge of any sheepe there above the rate of 10*d.* a skore for anye markett daie through the whole yeare exceptinge onely upon Palmesundaye even Lowsundaye even, Maydaye, Midsomer daye and Michelmas daye, and for these 5 last daies hee shall not take above 12*d.* a skore for a daye, yett soe as if one will have a penn upon anye of the said 5 daies for 20 sheepe which will hould 40 or more that then he that shall take the penns may take after the rate of soe many sheepe as that penn will hould although it come to more than 12 pence the skore, and yett that if any man bring to the market uppon anye of the said 5 daies a small parcell of sheepe as of 20 or 30 or the like and the taker or tenant of the penns hath not anye penn emptye fitt to hould that parcell, that then the taker shall finde out a penn emptye

fitt to hould that parcell of sheepe, and if it bee a penn that will hould a greater number than that parcell, yet he shall take noe more for that great penn then to the number of the parcell of sheepe after the rate of 12d. the skore If there be any difference at anye tyme for the conuenyencye of the place or price of anye penn soe to bee let betweene the townes tenant and the taker of a penn for a daye etc the difference shalbe referred to Mr Maior of the towne or the Stewardes of the faires for the tyme being to agree uppon and that the taker shall not sett or lett for above one quarter of a yeare without the consent of the corporacion ([illegible] hanc nota a postea) And that the taker must leave as manye penns and as in as good repaire at the ende of his terme as he shall finde them at his entrance of his terme, [illegible] yet if the taker tender the same lease to the corporacion and the corporacion refuse to take the lease in again upon the allowance to the said taker according to the rate for the time that shall bee behinde as the taker shall paye to the Corporacion that then the taker shall have libertye to sett it to whome he will.

CCCLXXVI. *Extracts from Letter to Mr Norrice*

Hall Papers X, No. 128. [1635.] Mr Norrice * * *
 your request has been taken into consideracion and a meeeting appointed for that purpose, at which Mr Recorder was present, and upon due consideracion had of your request, and perusull of our Charters, and other presidents in that case, it was found, that (in respecte you are by the Charter to continue a Justice of peace for Certaine yeaeres after your Maioraltie as all others are in like case) Wee cannott discharge yow untill that time be expired which by reason of Mr Gilliotts death, ys yett almost twoe yeaeres to Come Our desire therefore is that you will retorne to your former place and Charge, that wee and the whole Corporacion may have the benefit of your advice in governmente and of your purse in supporting the charges of this Corporacion, which you know is very greate There is of late an imposition of £400[6] layd upon this Countie for providing Shipp money for his Maiesties Service, whereof this [borough] is charged with £200 and thereof you are assessed to paie [illegible]

CCCLXXVII. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1634-35*

Receipts.

Item receaved of Mr Baker for the use of the Towne Cli.

Item receaved of Mr Somerfeild for the use of the Towne Cli.

CCCLXXVIII. *Petition of John Birch and Ann his wife*

Hall Papers X, No. 180. [20 April 1636.] * * That whereas your petitioners wife haveing occasion to goe to the Shambles to buy a peice of meate and being ther was abused by some of the butchers youths who did throwe snow balls at her but what was in one of the balls she cannot tell but a stone or something was thrown at her by John Tompson sonn, William Tompson which brake her head in most cruell manner, so that his sayd wife was enforced to hire a Surgeon which must have xs. for his Cure.

Humbly prayeth that your Worshipps will be pleased to take some order that her said Surgeon may be satisfyed and the said youth corrected for her abuse And that she may walke about her marketts and affayres without any danger * *

20 April 1636. apud generall sessions Richeerd Greaves hath promised that John Birch shall have xs. to pay the Chirugion uppon Condicion that his wife shall not offer any of her commodities to sell in the Shambles.

CCCLXXIX. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers X, No. 279. [May Day, 1636.] Item it is this daye ordered that the ould Chamberlaines shall paye and laye out all ch[arges] and fees which are due for the towne to paye till this Michaelmas Daye bee ended and from and for this Michaelmas daye the new Chamberlaynes to pay and disburse all payments and not for any that are payable upon this Michaelmas Daye or before and soe the same order to be continued for ever hereafter.

It is ordered that the night watch to bee kept till by twoe of the clock at everye gate [and] that the Constable shall continue his order of walkinge abroade [*illegible*] to see the watch duly kept.

CCCLXXX. *Money for Library*

Hall Papers X, No. 221. [6 May 1636.]	<i>£</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
<i>Imprimis</i> of the Bishopp of Lincoln	10	0	0
Mr Poulteneys	5	0	0
Mr Astons sonnes	2	0	0
The Ministers of the Deanrie of Goscot	9	13	4
The Ministers of the Deanrye of Goodlaxton	10	10	0
The Ministers in Sparkinoe Deanrye	7	5	0
The Ministers in Framland Deanrye	6	15	0
The Ministers of the Deanrye of Akeley	4	2	0
Mr Willowes	10	0	0
The Ministers of Gattrye Deanrye paid to Mr Angell by Mr Ive which he received	17	0	4

CCCLXXXI. “*My Lord of Stanfords expressions of his intencions touchinge the Comon Brewers in Leicester*”

Hall Papers IX, No. 440. [1636.] That he shall have the nomination of all the Comon Brewers in Leicester.

That those only shall serve all the Inholders Victuallers and ale-houses in the towne with beere and ale.

That none shall brewe any drinke to retaile in their houses.

That those brewers shall serve the whole Towne with good and wholsome drinke at reasonable prices.

The Brewers to be [*illegible*] by M^r Maior and Justices of Leicester.

That he will allow xxli. per annum to the poore of Leicester forth of the profitts if they amount to a Competent value.

CCCLXXXII. *Protest against grant of monopoly to Lord Stanford*

Hall Papers IX, Nos. 425–6. [No date.] That the Borough of Leicester is a verie auncient Corporacion and indowed with many lawfull priviledges and customs amongst which, one is, that none but freemen shall set up or exercise, any trade or misterie, within the said Corporaccion, which rights and priviledges wee and our predecessors haveing longe enjoyed and wee beinge all by our particular oathe bound to mayntayne are like (if theis proposicions take effecte) to be infringed and Straungers brought in at the pleasure of the Patentee to use that trade.

That there are at this present within this Towne of Leicester divers Comon Brewers and soe have beene for many yeares past which doe sufficiently serve divers of the principall Innes and most of the Gentle[mens] private housekeepers and victuallers within the same Towne and places adioyninge with good and wholesome drinke and at reasonable prices and thereby mayntayne themselves and theire families usinge noe other trade of livinge who (if they should be supprest from the use of that trade) are lyke to be utterly undone haveing bestowed a greate parte of theire stokes in providinge brewinge vessels and other materialls for that purpose.

That all those Comon Brewers are freemen of the Towne and under the power and Coercion of the Maior and Justices if in any thinge they offend the Lawe, and some of them have beene bredd and brought upp as Apprentices to the same trade and have Apprentices to the same. There beinge some Inkeepers and diverse Victuallers which brew drinke and utter the same in theire owne houses (all or most of

which doe afforde the poore greate releife by selling them a full gallon of whatsoever small drinke for a pennie) if they alsono should be supprest from the use of that theire meanes of livinge, and the same reduced into one or a fewe mens hands, wee cannot conceave but that the same will tend to the ympoverishinge of most of those and theire families.

That if the Comon Brewer be put under a fyne or annuall payment the same will tend not onely to the greate hurte of the said Brewers and theire families but also to the generall inconvenience of the whole Corporacion.

CCCLXXXIII. Meeting of Mayor and Brethren

Hall Papers X, No. 210. [13 May 1636.] It is agreed and this daye all the Aldermen that weere present did in writeing under their handes give Mr Raph Thomson the Maior of this Borough authoritye to deale in the busines concerning the Burrough and the right honorabile the Earle of Stanford concerning the erecting of the brewhouses within the Burrough of Leicester, and to have theire reasons tendered to the contrary thereof to bee well considered of as he shalbee thereunto advised.

CCCLXXXIV. Mayor and Commissioners

Hall Papers X, No. 20. [June, 1636.] It is this daye agreed that the meadowes called the Red house meadowes shalbee leased for 21 yeares for the rent of 20*l.* per annum and for what fyne can bee gotten, and that the lessee whosoever hee shalbee shall paye yearlye unto Mr Biller and Mrs Ludlam farmors of the Tythe haye of the South feilds of Leicester and of the meadowes there for the tythe of the same meadowes tenn shillings yearlye and noe more whereunto the said Mr Billers and Mrs Ludlam doe agree during the tyme of theire lease. And that the lessee shall have a convenient waye to the same meadowes to bee procured at the chardges in the lawe of the Corporacion, if it cannot bee otherwise procured.

CCCLXXXV. Visit of Palgrave of the Rhine

Hall Papers X, No. 252. [12 Aug. 1636.] The 12th of August 1636. The Palgrave of the Rhine dined at the Angell in Leicester and Mr Maior Mr Recorder and the Aldermen heareing of his comeing in a verye short tyme provided a banquet and wine and went to the Angell to present the same to him which he kindelye accepted from them the banquet and wine cost above 20*l.*

CCCLXXXVI. *Regulations concerning Watch and Ward*

Hall Papers X, No. 257. [30 Aug. 1636.] It is this daie ordered by Mr Raph Tompson Maior etc * * * that there shall bee everye night one Constable to walke abroad all night to see that the watchmen in everye place dulye observe theire watche and cause the night watchmen to stay untill the day watchmen come and that the Constable of Mr Ives his warde shall first begin this present night the next after him the Constable of Mr Raies ward etc * * * and ye Constable that served the night before shall give warneing in the morning to him that is to walke the night after. It is alsoe ordered that one of the xxiiij^{tie} or xlviij^{tie} shall walke about everye daie to oversee the watchmen that they doe well and dulye performe theire places, and the anncientest of the 24^{tie} which hath not beene Maior shall first begin and soe everye one to followe in order according to their antiquities and that there shalbe a decent Staffe provided for that purpose, and everye one when he hath donne his service for the daie, the same staffe to bee sent to the next, and after it bee gone through the 24^{tie} then to begin with the anncientest of the 48^{tie} and soe forth according to theire antiquitie.

CCCLXXXVII. *Extract from Petition*

Hall Papers X, No. 227. [21 Sept. 1636.] Sheweth whereas the said Thomas Pestell being requested to build upp againe a place in the horsefaire called the pennyeles bench (as being thought to bee verye convenient in that place for many occasions) did take uppon him the care to see it donne, and hath laid out about it 5*li.* ii*s.* jd.—(asks for payment.)

(Granted 5 marks.)

CCCLXXXVIII. *The Plague*

Hall Papers X, No. 475. [24 Dec. 1636.] Danyell Morris for want of suerties for the good behavior for his miscarriage in concealeing the sicknes within his house is committed to the gaole and suppressed from victualling and his signe to bee taken downe.

CCCLXXXIX. *Extract from Charity money accounts*

Hall Papers X, No. 303. [Dec. 1636.] The money given by the Lotterye being 20*l.* and the money given by Sir W^m Curtaine being 10*l.* and the money given by Mr Evington being 48*l.* with 40*s.* added thereunto by the towne was laid forth for the purchaseing of

land of the yerelye rent of 4*l.* 16*s.* which is ordered to be bestowed thus. vitz 48*s.* about New Yeeres daye and the other 48*s.* 2 or 3 daies before whitsundaye in 4 pennye loafes of bread to bee divided to the severall parishes after this manner * *

CCCXC. Mayor and Brethren

Hall Papers X, No. 309. [12 Jan. 1636/7.] It is agreed at this meeting that if M^r John Angell the Skoolemaster will freely yeald upp the freeschoole to such a man as the Maior and the greater part of the Aldermen of the said Borough shall like that then they are content that hee shall have paid him out of the towne chamber 20*l.* and if he will diligently keepe the librarye and carefullye looke unto the bookees there and give securitye to the towne for their safe keeping then they doe agree alsoe that he shall have for his paines therein taken £6. 13*s.* 4*d.* yearelye during the pleasure of the towne.

CCCXCI. M^r Norrices gift to the poor

Hall Papers X, No. 207. [13 March 1636/7.] Right Worshipful and beloved Brother * * * I doe understand by your loving letter that you are very carfull for ye well disposinge of ye *xli.* per annum which it pleased ye lord to put into my harte to give to ye poore. I desyre ever to be thankfull to ye lord that moved me to doe it and whereas you wryte unto me that I should give you a thoritye under my hand and seale for ye receipt of it that is needesse for if you please to looke into your deed you shall fynd that you have as good a thoritye as Can be and that I have putt it wholly into your hands and quyte out of myne owne. onely this I would intreat you that you wilbe carfull to demand it when it is dew and to use meanes if it be nott payd at ye tyme appoynted I hope my lords honnor wilbe Carfull of it Whylst he liveth if he be put in remembraunce of it if not you have meanes to gett it and I hope you wilbe carfull of it for else it wilbe a wronge to ye poore my lords promise was to me that that there should be a pertyckular ground tyed for it that was worth some *xxli.* a yeare for it and if you please to speake with my lord of yt it is like his honnor will doe it when things are settled * * and this I would intreat of you that when I nomynate any persons to have some share of it you wilbe pleased to let them have so much as I request of you, which shall not be verye much to a bodye.

CCCXII. *Extract from Petition*

Hall Papers X, No. 312. [No date.] The humble petition of Jane Burtinge widdow * * * That whereas your poore peticioners husband being master of your house of Correction and haveing lived therein 13 years * * * haveing many times peopell committed that weare burthensome and chargable to him and also about 7 yeares since beinge commanded to employ divers poore peopell on worke, had to that end a stocke of 5*li.* in money and 4*li.* 15*s.* worth of hempe delivered to him, which hempe being rotten and not fitt for worke, and alsoe the workfolkes being unskilfull came to verye littell when it was wrought * * * alsoe your poore peticioner beinge now putt from the foresaid house of Correction is forced to give a greate Rente for a poor Roome to lodge in * * * May it therefore please your Worshipps (shee haveing payd alreadey 4*li.* 3*s.* 4*d.* of the foresaide stocke) to forgive the rest shee being utterly unable to pay it.

[Granted she should be quit of £5. 15 "uppon payment of the other £5."]

CCCXIII. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1635-36**Receipts.*

Item received of Mr John Pare and Mr John Hinde for the rent for the Castle Millnes for one whole yeare ended at Michaelmas 1636. x*li.*

Item receaved of Mr John Pare and Mr John Hinde for their fyne for a lease of the Castle Mills C*li.*

Freemen etc.

John Hill first sonne of Roger Hill made free the 12th of June 1636 his fine in wine and suger—a pottle of wine.

Other receipts etc.

Item for insufficient pewter from the Searchers x*vs.* ix*d.*

Payments.

Item paid to Mr Watkins vicar of St Martins for reading of dinner service in the weeke daye in St Martins church being the guift of Christopher Tamworth Esqr. Deceased. v*jli.* xii*s.* iii*jd.*

Fees Wages etc.

Item paid to Sir Edward Mosely for parte of payment for the Castle Mills CCCxli.

Item paid then for certaine bookes vizt. Pultons abridgment of the Statute xxxvijs. Pulton De pare Rege etc. viijs. v*jd.* Bacons

Elements of the lawe xvijd. and two other little bookees the one the use of the lawe and the Starr Chamber cases xvjd. a paper booke ijs. and to putt them in and theire carriadge downe from London iijs. id. in toto. ijli. xs. vd.

Item pd to John Allen for a booke of Assize of bread vjd. and for Daltons Justice of peace vijs. and another booke concerning the resolutions of the Judges xvjd. in toto ixjs. xd.

Item pd to the Constable of Braunston for a taxe laid upon the vicaridge of S. Maries for Shippmoney vjs.

Repaires.

Item paid to him for openinge the locks on the evidence house and for setting of them on againe iiijd.

Item paid to Mr Pestell towrdes the repaire of Pennyles Bench by consent of a Comonhall iijli. vjs. viijd.

Item paid to the towne Swineheard of Leicester by the appointment of Mr Maior and Mr Ives to buy him some clothes vjs. vjd.

Newe yeares guifts etc.

Item paid the 9th of May for a quarte of sacke and a quarte of Claret and 6d. in Biskets sent to the schoole when Mr Doctor Clarke did visite the same ijs. vjd.

Item given to the Bishopp of Carlisle a gallon of sacke and pottle of White wyne. vjs.

Item paid for a banquet and wine the 24th of August for the entertainment of the prince Palgrave of Rihne [sic] to Mr Putchen for banqueting stiffe as appeareth by his bill xvijli. xviijs. viijd.

Other guifts.

Item given to a pore passenger that had her husband a prisoner at Argiers vs.

Item given to Irishmen, Scottishmen men souldiers and pore ministers from Michaelmas till the 14th of Januarye vijs. ixd.

To players.

Item given the 22th of November to a compayne of players ili. xiijs. iiijd.

Item given the 22th of Aprill to a compayne of players called the Kings Revells ili.

Item given the 12th of Julye to a compayne of players ili.

And soe it appeares upon this account the charge is 1215. 9. o. and that the dischardges [supers] and allowances come to 1158. 16. o.

And so there remains upon this account 56. 13. due to the towne.

CCCXCIV. *Distress taken for Ship Money*

Hall Papers X, No. 389. [26 March 1637/8.] It is this day ordered that a distress shalbe awarded against Mr W^m Speechley, John Foldyer, Robert Burstall W^m Turvill W^m Brewin, Thom. Overing Henry Watts shoemaker, George Ludlam, Sam. Smitharse Thom. Sheene, Randall King junor John Mabbes, Thom: Goodfellow junior Pollidor Roberts Fausin Gilbert Hugh Marshall James Fox Alexander Cotes W^m Callis Daniell Morris John Daye James Crosse Raphe [*illegible*] Robert Headlye Tho: Headlye Arth. Herost John Baugh Rich Deacon Tho: Orton Edw. Baxter Thom. Reeves for theire severall assessments for the ship money.

CCCXCV. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1636-37**Receipts.*

Item receaved for the beadhouse meadowes belonginge to the sd Granges (i.e. Newarke Grange) for one halfe yeares rent of a newe increased rent due at Michaelmas last. ixli.

Other receipts.

Item receaved alsoe of them (i.e. the late Chamberlains) which should have beene distributed in theire yeare the consaderacion for Cli. given by the widowe Ossiter to the poore of this corporacion vjli. os. od.

Expenditure.

Item paid to Mr Angell for one halfe yeares salarye for the keepeinge of the librarye endinge at Michaelmas last past. iijli. vjs. viid.

Item paid to the poore of Leicester beinge the yearlye guift of Mr John Norrice thelder [*illegible*] Alderman of this burrough vijli. vjs. viijd. and to the poore of the hospitall beinge alsoe his guift xxxijs. iiijd. in toto xl.

Fees wages etc.

Item paid to Richard Redley for a vest of boxes to putt writings in which standes in Mr Martins Chamber. ili. xs. od.

Item paid to Mr Stanley for the makeing upp of the summe of 206li. for the shipp money vjli. xjs. vjd.

Item paid to Mr Angell by consent of a Comon Hall for his leaveing of the free schoole xxli.

New yeaeres guifts etc.

Item given to the Right honorable the Earle of Devon at his first

comeinge to the Abbey after his travaile 10 gallons and one pinte of Sack, 10 gallons of Clarett ij*l.* xiijs. xid.

Item given unto one Captaine Welbye agent taken by the Turkes by the direction of M^r Maior. vs. iiijd.

Players.

Item given to another companye of players beinge ye Kings Revills ij*l.* os. od.

The chardges of new buildinge of the parlor at the towne hall and of the Chambers over it and the buildings adioyninge to it and for glaseing and other cost bestowed upon the hall as followeth.

Imprimis given to the Countes of Devon servveyor for Surveying ye parlor. vs.

Workemens wages.

Item paid to Raph Simpson the 7th of Aprill for his and twoe mens worke one weeke at the wood for worke at the hall. ij*l.* viijs. vjd.

Item paid to him for his and twoe mens worke at ye wood one daye iijs. ijd.

Masons and laborers and servers.

Item paid to Richard Hastwell and John Browne for a weekes worke xiijs. od.

Item paid to 2 laborers to helpe them a weeke ixs.

Item paid to a laborer for 4 dayes iijs. od.

Item paid to a laborer for 3 daies and a halfe ijs. iiijd.

Item given to the workemen at the towne hall at severall tymes in beare and bread and for victualls for them at the reareinge of the buildings as appeares by the bill thereof. ij*l.* viijs. viijd.

Item paid for the cutting of the chimey peece to the carver 15*l.* 16s. 6d. and to Sheene for wood 1 Joyners worke for the same chimney peece 4*l.* 13s. 6d. in toto xli. xs.

Item paid to the carver for putting the said chimneye peece into cullors and gilding the same ij*l.* 10s. od.

Item laide out for nailes and selling upp the seeling and the chimney peece iijs. iiijd.

Item for a coppie of a draught for the chimney peece 1*s.* od.

Item given to the workmen in beare and a joyner to helpe to measure the wainscot 1*s.* od.

[Receipts	744.	15.	9.
Expenses	797.	13.	0.
Due to Chamberlains	53.	17.	2.]

CCCXCVI. *Meeting of Commissioners*

Hall Papers X, No. 437. [4 June 1638.] It is this daye agreed the house and meadowes latelye agreed to bee bought of Mr Nurse for 300*l.* that the assurance of the same shalbe made first to Mr Ive, and hee afterwards to make answeare back againe to the use of the Corporacion.

CCCXCVII. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers X, No. 449. [20 July 1638.] It is this daye ordered that there shalbee chosen everye yeare at Michaelmas twoe officers one of the Companye of the 24^{tie} and another of the 48^{tie} which have been Chamberlains for the collecting and distributeing of such Charitable deedes as are given to the poore and to be called by the name of Collectors of the Charitable uses and one of them twoe collectors to continue twoe yeaeres and they to make theire accompt to the Maior and Justices within one moneth after Michaelmas yearelye.

CCCXCVIII. “*Artickles of Agreement made concluded and agreed upon betweene the Maior Bayliffes and Burgesses of the Borough of Leicester of the one parte and Nathaniell Symms of the sayd Borough of Leicester Rough layer of the other parte The xxijth day of January Anno Domini 1638 as hereafter followeth vizt.*”

Hall Papers X, No. 555. [21 Jan. 1638/9.] Imprimis yt is agreed betweene the sayd parties That the sayd Nathaniell Symms shall ditch and trench so much ground as shalbe founde needfull and fittinge for a causey of payment of foure foote wide beginning at the Cleapittss about Galtrey gate in the parish of St Margarets Leicester and so forward up the Gallowtree way as the sayd Maior Bayliffes and their successors shall thinke fitting.

Item it is agreed likewise that the sayd Nathaniell Symms (for the sayd worke * * *) shall have for every yard forward upon the sayd Causey so made the some of Two pence by the yard for the length of the sayd Causey) and if it be appointed that he shall make the same any wider, that then he shall be payd after the same rate.

Item yt is likewise agreed that the sayd Nathaniell Symms for the sayd worke shall finde and provide Twentye loads of Bigg Rough stone in the sayd Borough of Leicester for the Bordering of the sayd worke, and he the sayd Nathaniell Symms is to be allowed from the

sayd Maior Bayliffes and Burgesses for and towards the findinge and providing of the sayd xx^{te} Loade of Bigg Rough stone the some of xs.

Item yt is further agreed that the sayd Maior Bayliffes and Burgesses shall bring the sayd Rough stone and also all other stone belonging to the sayd worke at their own proper costs and charges.

Item yt is further agreed That the sayd Nathaniell Symms shall make all such Scotches or gutters in the sayd worke as the Towne shall thinke fitt they finding stone and lyme or other materialls as they shalbe thought needfull.

Item yt is lastly agreed That the sayd Nathaniell Symms or his assignes shall keepe and maintaine the sayd Causey Scotches gutters and Trenches for the terme of Three yeares next after the feast of St Michaell Tharchangell next comming in good and sufficient repaire in every respect as shalbe thought fitt by the Maior for the tyme being or any other persons he shall appointe for that purpose and shall have for the mainteyning thereof for the sayd Three yeares the some of iijs. iiijd. per Annum.

CCXCIX. Subscriptions for Preacher's salary

Box 14. Various Papers, No. 4. [No date.] Wee the Parishoners of the Parish of St Martin in the Borough of Leicester whose names are hereunder written Do verie [illegible] Preacher as the Lord Keeper of the Greate Seal [illegible] twice assent to the Viccaridge of St [Martin] the tymes [illegible] maintenance of the said Preacher [illegible] Somes of Money We promise to paye yearlye [the said sum] unto him soe long as he is resident and we contynue in the said Parishe.

Daniell Murfine Mayor	xs.	Due from the yeare...Mr Poult
William Poe	xs.	neys house xxs.
William Billers	xiijs. iiijd.	Due by a legacy given by
Richard Inge	xs.	Mr [illegible] xxs.
Elizabeth Herik	? viijs.	Item given to [illegible] and now
William Stanley	xiijs. iiijd.	paid by Mr William Stanley
John Somerfeilds	viijs.	xxx.s.
William Ward	viijs.	[Long list illegible]
Robert Browne	xs.	
Richard Ludlam	xs.	Richard Barnes xs.
Mirander Baker	viijs.	Robert Harts vjs. viijd.
Thomas Goodfellow	vs	Widdow I [illegible] iiijs.

William I [illegible]	vjs.	John Mitchell	vjs.
Thomas [illegible]		William Cooke	vjs.
George [illegible]	vjs. viijd.	John Allin	viijs.
James [illegible]	xs.	Barbarie Clark widdow of	
Samuell [illegible]	vs.	John Turvile	viijs.
Alexander Inge	? vjs.	P [illegible] Wider	viijs.
William Turvile	vjs.	George S?	vs.
George Martin	xs.	Richard Palmer	vjs.
Edmund [illegible]	xs.	William Bre [illegible]	vjs.
Nathaniel [illegible]	viijs.	Robert Noble	vjs.
[illegible]	vjs. viijd.	Richard Coleman	vs.
Robert? Erick	vjs. viijd.	Francis Elliott	vs.
[illegible] Gilbert	vjs.	Alexander Cotes	vs.
[illegible] Dike	vjs.	Nicholas Berkydend	vs.
Thomas Stringer	vjs.	William Anskell	vs.
Samuell [illegible]	xs.	William Callis	vs.
Phillipp M [illegible]	? xjs. iiijd.	Anthony Rudyard	vs.
William Y [illegible]	vjs.	William Warberton	iiijs.
Robert Blunt	viijs.	Henrie Bate	iiijs.
Auden Reanor	vjs.	Widdowe Benskin	iiijs.
Francis Noble	vjs.	Thomas Sheene	iiijs.
Thomas Henshawe	vjs. viijd.	Widdow Dale	iiijs.

CCCC. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1637-38*

[Receipts—missing.]

Expenses.

Item paid to Sir Edward Moselye due to him for the Remainder of the Castle Mills CCC*l*.

Item paid to the Constable of Braunston gate for shipp money and for a layer to S. Maryes Church viijs. *od.*

Item paid for shipp money that was behinde xxvij*l*.

Item paid to Mr Wadland for worke donne about the hermitage well. *jli. iijs. ijd.*

Item paid for a quarte of Sack and a quarte of claret given to Mr White the vicar of St Martins the 15th of Julye being at his first comeing to the towne ijs. *od.*

[Payments to Players. Lord Gorin's, Lord Leicester's and the Children of the Revells.]

CCCCI. *Meeting of the Twenty Four*

Hall Papers X, No. 526. [1639.] It is likewise agreed there shalbe bestowed about *4*l*i*** for the makeing of a milne or quarnes to grinde with in the house of Correction for the setting of such on worke there as shalbe thither comitted or sent.

CCCCII. *Extract from Letter from Privy Council concerning Ship Money*

Hall Papers X, No. 545. [Dec. 1639.] And whereas his Maiestie takes notice that in former Assessements Notwithstandinge the expressed order * * in our Letters to ease the poore, there have beene assessed towards this Service poore Cottagers, and others whoe have nothinge to live on, but there dailye worke, which is not onelie a verie uncharitable Act, in it selfe and grievous to such people, but can admitt noe better construccion then that it was done out of a[n evil] humor of purpose to raise Clamor, and preiudice the Service Wherfore his Maiesties expresse Command is that you take effectual care and order by such precepts and warrants as you send for this service That noe personns be assessed to the same unlesse they be knowne to have Estates in money or goods, or other means to live by, over and above what they gett by there daylie labour.

[It adds that if the Sheriff has not collected all the Ship Money at the end of his term of office, "whatsoever you shall leave unlevied [*illegible*] will not be cast on your Successor as in former yeares some Sherifffes expected and therefore retarded the Service * * * but that all such somes as shall be unlevied by you * * * shall be levied by yourselfe after the end of your yeare by warrant from your Successor."]

CCCCIII. *Meeting of the Twenty Four*

Hall Papers X, No. 557. [Feb. 1639/40.] Whether M^r Martin shall have waye to Resigne his place to make benefitt of it or no the power of eleccion Reserved.

(2 votes for, 18 against.)

It is agreed that M^r Thomas Blount and M^r William Ward Shalbee collectors for the gathering upp of the Shippmoney.

CCCCIV. *Meeting of the Twenty Four*

Hall Papers X, No. 522. [14th June 1639.] It is this daye agreed by the parties above marked that Mr William Stanley and Mr Blunt are to goe to the Right Honorable the Earle of Huntingdon for to entreat his Lordshipp that Mr Maior maye be spared from giveing any list of the 24 and 48 and other [men] of worth within the said towne accordeing to a letter received from the said Lord, and that they [shall] deale in the busines as they shall finde cause.

CCCCV. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1638-39**Fees wages etc.*

Item paid for the trayneing of fourtye men twoe dayes *vli. vjs. viijd.*

Item given to two drammers and three servants and spent uppon them in drinke *vijs.*

Item paid for twoe knappsacks twoe purses and Incke for bandileers *vijs. jd.*

Item for ribbons for the Soldiers *ijli. vijs. vjd.*

Item paid for vj soldiers Capps *vjs.*

Item paid for armeing the soldiers *js.*

Item paid for a dinner at the Angell and entertainment of the captaine that came to viewe our Armes and Mr Candley sonne in lawe to the Earle of Huntingdon. *iiijli. iiijs.*

Item paid for the whole charges of the soldiers in sendinge them out into the North for the presse money apparrell and other necessary Charges appeareth particularly by a bill *xxijli. xiijs. xd.*

Repaires.

Item paid for makeing the causeway leading from gallowtree gate to gallow hill as appeareth by a bill. *xxxvjli. ijs. vijd.*

New years guifts etc.

Item given to the Earle of Arundell at his beeing in the Angell 4 gallons of wyne and *4li.* and [*illegible*] of sugar. *ijli. ijs. iiijd.*

Item given to Mr Hastings and the rest of the deputie Leuietenants at the pressinge of the soldiers into the North two gallons of sack a gallon and a halfe of Clarrett a gallon of white wyne and two pound of sugar *jli. js. iiijd.*

Item given to the princes trumpeters the Earle of Essex and the Earle of Newcastles trumpeters by Mr Maiors appoynment *jli.*

[Payments to players. Children of the Revells.]

CCCCVI. *Letter from Roger Smith*

Hall Papers X, No. 578. [27 March 1640.] Sir I understand by Mr Palmer that you have elected me for one of your Burgesses, how much I am bound unto your towne for this honorable favour is beyond myne expressions, and therefore it cannot be without wounder unto you all that I should now refuse such an extraordinary Curtesie, nor could I indeed without shame to my self, and offence to your Worthie Societie decline the same, were it not that it is now made knowne unto me that I must take an oath (whereof I never harde nor dreamed before) whereto I cannot assent. Wherefore I beseech you let not my refusall receive anie interpretacion of neglect or want of due and thankfull respectfulness, for if it ever be in my power to testifie my love and honour in your towne I shall my uttermost manifest myself to be

Your true and faithfull servant
Roger Smith.

CCCCVII. *Extract from letter of Thomas Chapman, Recorder*

Hall Papers X, No. 599. [6 May 1640.] Mr Mayor * * *

Though my lord of Huntingdon gave an indifferent answer to your letter yet delaying to write unto you, we thought fitt to wryte another letter in your names to Mr Chancellor ye Duchye and to delyver that alsoe and to move him about the busynes, for feare my Lord of Huntingdon in the interim whyle he delayed us should complayne to ye Counsayle of you, and get a messenger sent downe for you, whyle we wayted upon him for his letter: We have found the Chancellor of ye Duchye verye kynd and verye carefull and therefore both you and all your brethren have cause to be restrespectful of him Though my Lord of Huntingdon at his request hath spared you, yet I beleive yf he had not mooved him therein, he would one way or other have done you a displeasure, or at least have Indeavored yt, but now I hope all wilbe well.

CCCCVIII. *Letter from Lord Huntingdon*

Hall Papers X, No. 634. [31 Aug. 1640.] After my herty Commendacions Whereas the Souldiers impressed out of the Western partes of this kingdome for this Northerne expedicion doe comonly in their passage billett and lodge at the Burrowe of Leycester and from thence to Loughborough I have sent theis letters to desire you

if any more of them doe repayre to your Towne and intend to come by Loughborough that you speake unto theire Conductor or Chiefe Officers and desire them to march ye nerer way to Nottingham or entend to Lodge at some other place in regard all his Maiesties forces of this County both Horse and foote are to bee there and that towne will not be sufficient to entartayne them nor do I knowe the tyme of their continuance at that place And soe in hast I rest

Your very loving freind
Huntingdon

Donnington this last of August 1640.

CCCCIX. Muster of men for Bishop's War

[Hall Papers XI, No. 1. [3 September 1640.] "The Lord Keeper of the Great Seale of England by vertue of his Majesty's warrants Charles, by the grace of God etc. to Henry Earle of Huntingdon and ffardinando Lord Hastings. Certen rebels of our Kingdome of Scotland have entred our Kingdom of Englande in an hestile manner with a great power." Orders muster of men in County and boroughs.]

CCCCX. Royal Commission of Array

Hall Papers XI, No. 2. [28 September 1640.] After my harty commendacions having receaved from the Kings most excellent Majestie a Commission under his Highnes greate Seale ffor the arrayinge and musteringe of all his able Subjects within this County And to cause those who by reason of Age or other Impediment are not able to serve in their owne persons and yett able in lands and goods to find Armes for men att Armes according to the quantitie of their lands or goods, By the grace of God and their assistance to prevent the mallice and ill intentions of such Rebels as are entred into this Kingdome Nowe for the better performance of theis his Majesty's commands of soe high importance I intend God willing to be at Leicester upon Thursday next where I require yourselfe and the Aldermen of your Burrough to meete me To thend I may receave from you such informacion of the Estates and Abilities of the severall Inhabitants within your Towne and liberties of Leicester whereby I may proceede in the execucion of his Majesty's Commission with the most indifference and equallitie that may bee

And soe in haste I rest

Your lovinge ffreind
Hen Hastings

Donington this 28th of September 1640.

CCCCXI. *Letter to Lord Huntingdon concerning a demand for fifty pounds*

Hall Papers XI, No. 14. [28 November 1640.] Right honorable

In all obeydyence to your Lordshipps command yntymated unto us by your Lordshipps warrants for the payment of ffifty pounds to Mr Robert Browne Tresurer which wee are by your Lordshipps Warrants in arrears Wee have thought meete at a Common Hall lately houlden for that and some other affaires concerneinge our Towne to conferre about the taxinge thereof May yt please your Lordshipp upon conference thereupon had with the Officers intrusted with the towne affaires to knowe what moneys they might have in readynes to discharge the said ffifty pounds Wee find that the charge hath beene soe greate this yeare in sending our souldiers to Loughborow and billetinge them there with our other expenses for his Majestys service in the North that it amounts unto one hundred and ffifty pounds at the least which as yet wee knowe not how to raise by way of Tax by reason of the small tradeinge wee have had of late in our poore Corporacion May yt allsoe please your honor further to understand that at such tyme as the said ffifty pounds were charged upon us our Towne was visited by the hande of God by the Pestilence to our greate charge of one hundred and ffifty pounds or above besides losse which wee then susteyned in our Traffique and commerce which was very greate, all which at our owne charge wee did beare and defray without charging the Countey any penny towards the same Att which tyme by reason of the contagiousnes of the disease our souldiers were not admitted to the scotiey of the rest of the county at their generall meetinges [*illegible*].

Most humbly therefore wee are bould to move your Lordshipp the premisses considered in the behalfe of ourselves and the rest of our Corperacion That your Lordshipp wilbe pleased to afforde us your noble faver in sparinge us from the payment of the said ffifty pounds wee not knowinge well how at this tyme to collecte the same And thus hopeinge of your Lordshipps faver herein wee humbly take our leaves and rest your Worshippes humble servants to command

William Stanley Maior	John Hynde
William Ive	Gilbert Rowlett
John Pace	Hugh Watts

CCCCXII. *Meeting of the Commissioners*

Hall Papers XI, No. 20. [18th December 1640.] It is alsoe agreed
that the Wash at the Castle Mills shalbe cut eaven with the [illegible]
size stone at the towne Charge.

It is alsoe agreed that the passages y^t are stopped by Mr Wadlands settinge of willows towards the Newark myls shalbe scoured and made fitt at y^e townes Charges.

It is allsoe agreed that the towne Counsell shall be advised with about the water passage against the mill the little mill home and the wast ground neare the hermitage and they and Mr Wadlands Counsell to determine these controversies.

CCCCXIII. *Meeting of the Twenty Four*

Hall Papers XI, No. 22. [22 January 1640/1.] Yt is allsoe agreed
that yf the Commoners of or beloningeinge to the late disaforrested fforrest
of Leicester have any possibilite to obtaine their desire about dis-
aforrestinge the said fforrest of Leicester that the Towne shall peticon
in that behalfe beinge at noe further charge therein.

Yt is at this meetinge agreed that yt shalbe lawfull for Mr Abney to take such indifferent Rent for the stalls and shambles as he shall thinge fitt Provided that yf any man thinke himselfe hardly used that then he shalbe moderated by Mr Maior for the tyme beinge.

CCCCXIV. *Sketch of "Arthur Halls plot"*

Danets land

		Mr Wadland	William Woodcock
bedehous Meadowes		John Mobbs	William Woodcock	Casall Mill
		Castall
		Newark Mill		

CCCCXV. *Letter concerning Parliamentary franchise*

Hall Papers XI, No. 24. [9 March 1640/1.] Yt was at this meetinge agreed that a Letter shall be sent to Northampton in answeare of their Letter to the Towne to joyne with them in renewinge and amendinge the acte of Parliament betweene this Towne and Northampton at this present Parliament that the Towne will not at this tyme doe anything therein.

Gentlemen

Upon the receipte of your Letter wee thought fitt to meeete and conferr about writeinge to our Burgesses upon the joyneinge wth you in the inlargeinge and confirmeinge of that Acte of Parliamt for choseinge of our Officers whereby as wee understand you make choice of your Burgesses for the Parliament and upon conference and consideracion amongst us had for that purpose wee find that for the choce [*sic*] of our Burgesses for Parliament we have a further powre then that acte of Parliament wherein Wee are joyned with your Corporacion Soe that at this tyme wee shall not forbeare to procede therein But returninge you many thanks for your care and good meaninge towards our Corporacion Thus with our harty commendacions remembred wee take our leave and rest

Your assured loueinge freinds

Leic^r 9th of March 1640.

CCCCXVI. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1639-40*

Item receaved of Edmund Johnson for his fyne for passinge by the Chamberlinshippe xxli.

*Item paied to 8 poore widdowes to buy them gownes 4*li.* and to the poore of the old hospitall 6*li.* and to the poore of the New hospitall 8*s.* and to the poore of this Towne every Fryday during Lent xiijs. iiijd. beinge the Guift of Mr William Ive in toto. xvli.*

*Item given to the Inhabitants of Glenn towards their losse by fire by consent of a hall vj*li.* xiijs. iiijd.*

Item given to lame and sickle souldiers left at the Angell vs. iiijd.

Souldiers.

*Item paid for billettinge the Comon Souldiers before they went to Loughborow as appears by bills. vj*li.* vijs. iijd.*

Item paied for coate and conducte money to the Rendesvous $xxiiij*l.*$

Item paid for apparrell and other neccesaryes for the Souldiers as appeares by bill. $xxli. viij*s.* ijd.$

Item paied for billettinge the Souldiers and other charges at Loughborow $xli. iiijs. xjd.$

Item paied for ympresse money $jli. vs.$

Item paied to every Souldier in his purse by the Earle of Hunting-dons Command $xs.$ in toto $xjli.$

Item paied towards the buyinge of horses for his Majesties service in the North. $xxxvjli. xijs. iiijd.$

Item paied for the horsehire for the Towne Clarke and ourselves for 20 dayes in goeinge and beinge at Loughborow about the Souldiers $jli. vjs. viijd.$

Item paied for 6 dayes charges for them at Loughborow. $xvjs.$

Item paied to 36 trained souldiers and nyne Supplyes sent to Loughborow for 11 dayes $xxxvijli. ijs. vijd.$

Item paied to the Armorer for 11 dayes at Loughborow and for other charges in carrying the thither and back againe $i*l.* vis. viijd.$

Item paied to 26 trained souldiers sent to Loughborow for one day $i*l.* xix*s.*$

Item paied to the trained Souldiers at the Deputyes view at Leicester $xijs.$

Item paied to Randoll for a Pike. $iijs. vjd.$

Item given to the Muster Master and Clarke of the Musters at that tyme by Mr Maiors appointment $jli.$

Item paied to a Drummer for goeinge to Loughborow with the Souldiers to goodman Redley for playinge before them and to him for layinge uppe the Armes at Loughborow. $vjs.$

Item paied for Ribbens for the souldiers $ijli. vs.$

Item paied to William Gamble for Armes wantinge after they had beene at Loughborow with the common souldiers as appeareth by bill. $ijli. xix*s.*$

Total $153*l.* 4*s.*$

Item paied for horsehire for 7 horses to carry ympotent souldiers to Loughborow and to Messingers sent to fetch them back $xijs.$

Item spent on the Captaines and Souldiers by Mr Maiors appointment at the throwinge downe the butt close walls $iiijs. ijd.$

Item paied to John Day for carryinge the Kings Munition to Loughborow and to 4 men to guard the same $xs.$

Item paied to Watchmen on Midsomer day to keepe the Souldiers quiete $vs.$

Repaires.

Item paied to Raph Brookes and William Smith for paveinge one hundred ninety and three yardes of pavement at the corne wall *iij. iiijs. ijd.*

Item paied to Richard Brookes for one hundred ninety and three yardes of pavement at the corne wall *iij. iiijs. ijd.*

Item paied to Richard Brookes for lime and sand and workman-shipp aboute the brige goinge to the dannetts hall. *iij. vjs. viijd.*

Item paied to Richard Brookes for lime and stones at the little brige as appeareth by his bill *iij. viijs. ijd.*

Guifts of wyne etc.

Item spent in goinge to visite the Earle of Salisbury. *ijs.*

CCCCXVII. Dispute concerning the Bishop's Fee

? Loose Papers, Press 22, No. 16. [No date.]

[The Mayor's answer to the Countess of Devon's petition.] That Mr Maior that now is goeing with a privy Watch (as is and hath beene accustomed) did finde certaine disordered persons in an Alehouse in the said Bishopps fee in the night tyme And havinge Comannded to carry them to Ward accordinge to their demerritts, Was by the Constable and others of the Bishopps fee affronted in the execucion of his office of Justice, and tould that he had nothinge to do there, And the malefactors by them attempted to be taken awaie from Mr Maior and his officers for which the Constables and twoe others were bound over at the assizes to answeare the premisses By which occasion there was a greate nomber of people drawne togeather which wee conceave is the same tumult complayned of in the petition.

It bee objected that James Sneaope was arrested in the Bishops fee and carried to prison (we answerre thus) * * A warrant was made to leavie xxs. of his goods And not havinge goods found where on to have made payment thereof But being arrested endeavoured with force to rescue himselfe, whereby a greate tumult was raised and Mr Maior that then was hearinge of the same came with some others in his assistance to prevent the danger which might have happened thereby whereupon he was carried to prison.

CCCCXVIII. Dispute concerning the Bishop's Fee

[Loose Papers], Press 22, No. 16. [No date.]

a. Petition to Privy Council of Maior Bailiffs and Burgesses of Leicester.

Shew. That whereas Queen Elizabeth by her highnes Letters

Patent etc dated the first day of June in the 41th yeare of her highnes raigne was graciously pleased to inlarge the Liberties of the Maior Bayliffes and Burgesses of the Borough of Leicester and to grant to them and their Successors amongst other thinges the government of that parte of the parish of S. Margarettis in Leicester aforesaid which is called the Bishopps fee (wherein the Countesse Dowager of Devon hath a Manner and Leete) By force of which Letters Patent, the said Maior etc did exercise Jurisdiction there accordinge to the said Charter untill about Tenn yeares since that your Peticioners findeinge some disordered Alehouses within the said fee and much evill rule kept there by virtue of their said Charter goeing to prevent the said disorders and entringe into a house to apprehend the malefactors resistance was made by some of the Inhabitants of the said fee (whoe had a desire to live without government and thereupon some tumults ariseing and many suits occasioned between the Towne of Leicester and some of the Inhabitants of the said fee, the said inhabitants repaired to the said Countesse and by their meanes she was pleased to prefer a Peticion to this honorable Board for stay of your Peticioners exerciseing their Jurisdicion within the said fee and for the stayinge of Suites at Law that were or might arise by the reasons aforesaid. And thereupon yt was then Ordered by this Board that your Peticioners should not at any time after exercise any Jurisdicion within the said fee nor lymitts thereof nor upon any of the Inhabitants thereof By which Order your Peticioners have ever since bin deprived of their libertyes so granted unto them by the said late Queene as aforesaid without any tryall at Law for or concerninge the same Though the said Countesse of Devon is contented your Peticioners shall exercise jurisdiccion there according to the Charter aforesaid

[Ask for the order to be revoked.]

"That your petioners may either enioye the same as they did before the said Order made Or yf they be opposed therein that they may bringe their Accion againte disturbers and so bringe the validity of their Charter in that parte to a Tryall at Law.

(b) [Statement of what happened in Bishop's Fee when the Mayor went to arrest Alehouse-keepers—Recitation of various grants and charities showing the position of the Bishop's Fee in relation to the Corporation. It is stated "that ever sithence 41 Eliz. the Maiors of Leicester have had and exercised authority of Justices of the Peace there." "By the new intended chart [which by the Countess of Devons means is staied from the Great Seale] there is desired no enlargement of privilege or libertie."]

CCCCXIX. *Protestation of House of Commons*

Hall Papers XI, No. 45. [13 May 1641.] Mr Maior and Worshipful Aldermen. Wee have sent this inclosed protestation by the command of the house, the Lords and Commons have taken it, The contents are more fully expressed then wee can otherwise declare but by it selfe you may easilie perceive what approbacion the house gives to those that joyne in this way and wee hope you will consider what is the best meanes to advance a work which tends so much to the peace and preservation of Kinge and Kingdome, Wee doubt not of your concurringe and intreate you to accounte Us

Your Lovinge Countrimen and servants

Tho: Grey

H. Ruthin

A. Hesilrige

rec'd this Letter per Mr Justice Bent May 19th 1641.

No. 51. [17 May 1641.] Yt is agreed that a Letter shalbe sent to the Burgesses to certifie them what Munition and Armes the towne now hath in readynes viz. fforty Muskettts and Cosletts and that the Powder and other Munition is in the Magazin with the County towards which the towne hath paied their proporcione.

Yt is further agreed upon the request of the Commoners of the late disafforested fforrest or chase of Leicester that the towne shall further them in the prosecucion of the pursute about the procureinge the same fforrest to be laied open againe And to that effecte shall Peticion the Parliament.

No. 83. [7 July 1641.] Yt was this day thought fitt by the parties above marked that the protestacion which was all y^t appeared taken by the house of Commons and sent downe to the Borough by some of the xx members of the said house should be administred to the Inhabitants of this Borough by the Ministers of the severall Parishes and to that end the Ministers was sent for and some of them came to the Towne hall and so many as came viz Mr Angell Lecturer Mr White Mr Warde and Mr John Angell was there requested to undertake that service in obeydyence to the house.

No. 73. [6 August 1641.] Yt is this day thought fitt by those above marked that the Resolucion of the house of Commons concerneinge the Protestation be Coppied out and a Coppie thereof presented to every of the Ministers of the seuerall parishes of this Borough to be by them published to their (severall) Parishes and Socityes.

CCCCXX. *Meeting of the Twenty Four and Forty Eight*

Hall Papers XI, No. 42. [No date.] A meetinge of the 24th and 48th for the walkinge of the May Day fare. Yt is at this Hall agreed that the ould Chamberlaines shall either have bond and Interest for the hundred pounds the towne was indebted to them or that yt shalbe taken upp to pay them forthwith.

This day bond was given under the Common Seale to Isaac Coop Gent of 200 [illegible] the payment of 104*li.* to him upon the third day of November next.

CCCCXXI. *Appointment of New Bailiff*

Hall Papers XI, No. 106. [25 October 1641.] John Beeby gent chosen Bayliffe upon the 18th day of this instant moneth of October by the consent of a full Court of Aldermen then houlden was in the full Court of Record of our Soveraigne Lord Kinge Charles holden the day and yeare above written in the presence of Mr Maior Mr Thos Chapman Recorder and the Aldermen above marked sworne to the Oath of Supremacie Allegiance and the accustomed Oath of a Bayliffe appointed by the Statute of 27 Eliz' Chapter ye 12.

CCCCXXII. *Request of John Beeby, Bailiff*

Hall Papers XI, No. 124. [No date.] To the right worl^l the Maior of the Burrough of Leic^r and to his Brethern The humble request of John Beeby Bayliffe thereof. Whereas uppon the xxvijth of October last I was admitted unto the said Office (which favour much engageth mee unto your persons and unto the wholl towne, and which rymindes me of that gratuitie which shortly wilbe presented unto you) Upon which entrie it was propounded that the Sarants formerly deputies to my predecessor should give securitie within Three weekes by themselves and their deputies to execute their places: These are humbly to certifie that Bartholomew Linsey Edward Newcomb and Henry Harwood have neglected to observe that direccions hitherunto: which tendeth to a greate negligence of my place (it beinge my dutie to provide for ministers to execute all lawfull precepts within the towne) and to the abatement and disprofitt thereof and argues a careless disrespect and slitinge of their services.

Therefore my request is that you would take their defaulte into your consideraccons, togeather with the inabilitie and insufficiencie which it and their persons manifest for the due execucion of the Kinge's service. And that you would bee pleased eyther to add a conveinient

supplie or else to graunte (for the prevencion of the former inconveniencies) that accordinge to my dutie I should authorize and depute such sufficient and fitt persons as offer themselves and securitie thereunto; and as by your good likinge shalbe be approved for to be

The townes most ready and
willing servant to the utmost
of his power

John: Beeby.

CCCCXXIII. *Meeting of the Twenty Four*

Hall Papers XI, No. 129. [21 January 1641-2.] At this meetinge yt is agreed that from henceforth soe longe as neede shall require a sufficyent night watch shalbe kept at every quarter and gate within the Towne by such number and in such manner as the summer watch is sett and kept: and that the said watch shall contine from nyne of the Clock at night untill ffoure of the Clock in the morneinge and that the sufficyency of the Watchmen shalbe left to the discretion of the Alderman of each several place And allsoe that the twoe companyes of the 24^{tie} and 48^{tie} shall walke successively one after another to oversee the said Watch every of them takeinge with him a Constable or Thirdbarrow to assiste him yf neede require whoe are hereby ordered to walke with them and every of them successively one after another.

Yt is allsoe agreed that those Sargants that have not or forthwith doe not give security to the Bayliffe for the performance of their Offices shalbe dismissed from beinge Attorneyes in the Towne Court And that the said M^r Bayliffe shall or may depute others in their places being such as the Maior shall allow of.

CCCCXXIV. *Section of M^r Ives Will*

Hall Papers XI, No. 120. [No date.] Itm I give and bequeath unto the Maior Bayliffs and Burgesses of the Borough of Leicester 20*l.* for the puttinge forth of 4 poore boyes of the said Borough for every of them 5*l.* to be putt forth apprentices at London, yf yt may be done coveniently, within 12 moonethes after my decease the said Apprentices to be nominated by the Maior and Justices for the tyme beinge or the greater parte of them

The branch of M^r Ives his Will concerninge
the puttinge forth apprentices.

Hall Papers XI, No. 121. [20 February 1641-2.] Yt is at this meetinge agreed that the 20*l.* above mencioned shalbe disposed of in

manner and forme followinge viz to Joseph Woodhouse John Allen Robert Stanley every of them 5*l.* towards the placeinge out of sonnes of the said Joseph Woodhouse John Allen and Robert Stanley to be Apprentices at London accordingly then their and every of their 5*l.* shalbe disposed of to such as shalbe putt forth to prentice thither.

Yt is further agreed that Bothamley sonne of [illegible] Bothamley late of Leicester cordwayner shall have the other 5*l.* towards the placeinge of him to be an apprentice at London yf he goe thither and be bound there otherwise that 5*l.* to be disposed of to some other that shall be bound apprentice there.

Yt is further agreed that the said 5*l.* nor any of them shalbe paied untill such tyme as the said apprentices be bound and yt justly appeare the said severall summes be disbursed towards the placeinge of them and every of them to prentice as aforesaid.

The 4 pownes given by Mr Ives to ffoure poore widdowes to be disposed of by the Maior and Justices was by the said Maior and Justices disposed of as followeth viz to

Norris widdow of St Margaretts Parish.

Smyth widdow of All S^{ts} Parish.

Roberts widdow of St Nicholas Parish.

Marshall widdow of the Parish of St Maryes.

CCCCXXV. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1640-41*

Other Receipts etc.

Item receaved beinge the bequest of John Poultney Esqr by his last will and testament to the use of the poore of this Corporacion per Annum xli.

Rents increased.

Item received of William Hitchcocke for one Orchard or garden in the parish of All Saints lately purchased of Mr William Ive with the money given by the Right honorable the Countesse of Devon to purchase lands of the yeerely value of three pounds for the use of the poore of Leicester and heretofore demised to William Huskin since deceased for 21 yeares at the yeerely rent of iij*l.* is. viijd.

Item received for the messuage in the Southgate and twoe meadows late Nurses land lately bought by Mr William Ive one of the Aldermen of the Borough and by him given to the Corporation for charitable uses xv*l.*

Other receipts.

Item received of John Stafford beinge the guift of George Suffolk by his last will and testament the interest thereof to be bestowed towards the repaire of a highway betweene Branston Bridge and the garden nooke or Jannie in the occupacion of Robert Dunn the summe of iiiij*l*i.

Item received of William Palmer for his fyne to be dismissed from off the Company of the 48^{tie} *vli*.

Item received of Arthur Hall for his fyne for passinge by the Office of Chamberlaine of this Borough ij*l*i.

Item received of John Launder for his fyne for the like *vli*.

Item received of John Webster a stranger for retaleinge lynnem Cloth within this Borough contrary to the Statute iijs. iiijd.

Freemen etc.

The Right honorable Thomas Lord Grey sonne and heire apparent to the Right Honorable Henry Earle of Stamford was made free of this Borough by consent of a Common Hall holden the 23th of October 1640 and was then chosen Burgesse for the Parliament for the same borough.

Item pd the Bayliffes of Leicester for the rents of certaine shoppes taken downe by the Towne which were standinge in the Satterday markett in Leicester neere the Elme tree there xjs. vjd.

Item paid upon St Thomas Day beinge the bequest of Mr Poultney x*l*i.

Fees Wages.

Item paid him (Mr Angell) more by consent of a Common Hall this beinge the first halfe yeeres payment *vli*.

Item paid to Mr John Billers the headschoolemaster beinge a free annuall Guift given him by the Towne for the betteringe of his meanes for one whole yeere ended at Michmas 1641. x*l*i.

Repaires.

Item paid for scoureinge the feare [sewer?] leadinge from Nurses Mill Lane into the Beadehouse meadowes after that Mr Wadland had taken upp the willowes ij*l*i. iijs. xjd.

Item given to Mr Angell when he preached concerninge the Protestacion i quarte of sacke is. iiijd.

[Extraordinary number of gifts to "Preacher of Gods Word."]

Item given to his Majesties Trumpeters by Mr Maiors appointment xs.

Item given to the Princes Trumpeters by Mr Maiors appointment xs.

CCCCXXVI. Meeting of Commissioners

Hall Papers XI, No. 149. [1 April 1642.] Yt is at this meeinge agreed that yf William Stockden will departe out of the house where he now dwelleth at or before Midsomer next that then he shall have **xxs.** per Annum given him out of the Towne stocke towards the payement of his Rent for ffeve yeeres And yf he shall refuse soe to doe that then order shalbe forthwith taken to remove him thence either by law or such other manner as shalbe thought fitt.

CCCCXXVII. Meeting of the Twenty Four

Hall Papers XI, No. 170. [6 June 1642.] Yt is at this meeinge thought fitt and by a general consent agreed that Mr Maior shall with all speede send his warrants to warne the trained band to appeare at the Towne Hall upon Wednesday next by Seaven of the Clock in the morneinge and that yf the Proclamacion sett forth by his Mat^e to forbidd the proceedinge with the militia be not before that tyme proclaimed either in the Towne or Countrie by virtue of his Mat^s wrift that then the said trained band shall appeare before the Right Honor^{ble} Henry Earle of Stanford and his Deputies according to the warrant sent by his Lopp to Mr Maior to that purpose but in case the said Proclamacion be proclaymed that then the said warrants shall be forthwith called in, and that noe further proceedinge shalbe therein had.

*CCCCXXVIII. Lord Stanford's Warrant for Muster
of Trained Band*

Hall Papers XI, No. 154. [5 May 1642.] To the Maior of the Corporacion and Burrough of Leicester.

Whereas by an ordinance of this present Parliament for the speedie settlinge of the Militia, for the safetie of his Mat^s person Parliament and Kingdome I Henry Earle of Stanford beinge ordained Lord Leuetenant for the Countie of Leicester, These are therefore to require yow the said Maior to give warninge to all the trained soldiers within your said Corporacion to make their personall appearance with their armes formerlie charged upon them before mee and my Deputies upon Wednesday the eight of this instant June upon the Cornewall hill in yor said Burrough of Leic^r by Eight of the Clocke in the morninge and that yow give yor personal attendance before mee and my Deputies at the tyme and place aforesaid, Hereof faile yow not as yow will answer the Contrary.

Stanford

Bradgate

May 5th 1642

Hall Papers XI, No. 155. That the Lord of Stanford's Warrant is to be obaied yf the Kings Proclamacion be not proclaymed and yf yt be the Proclamacon to be obaied

f. i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i .

Noe _____.

CCCCXXIX. *Appointment of Special Watch and Ward*

Hall Papers XI, No. 172. [2 July 1642.] Yt is at this meetinge agreed that a stronge watch shall forthwith be sett at every gate in the Towne night and day viz 20 at a gate whereof 16 are to watch without every gate and foure within And that every Warde shall sett out a proporcionable number towards the same watch, and That every man shall beare his owne charges, and that the same watch shall continue untill such tyme as the feares be over concerninge the bringinge of forces into the Towne by the right hon^{ble} the Earle of Stanford M^r Harry Hastings and others, and that the said Watchmen shalbe allowed of by the approbacion of the Alderman of every Warde and noe otherwise.

Yt is at this meetinge allsoe agreed that chaines shalbe made forthwith and posts sett at the St^t Sundayes bridge and the Eastgates for the safeguard and stengthening of those parts of the Towne.

CCCCXXX. *Royal Order concerning the collection and transport of munitions of war*

Hall Papers XI, No. 172*. [5 August 1642.]

Charles R:

Whereas wee have given Order for sendinge into our County of Warwick Armes, powder, shott, and other Amunicion for the better strengthning of our Subjects there against any violence or attempts that may bee intended, or made upon them. Our will and pleasure therefore is, that immediately upon the sight hereof, you take up, or assiste the bearer hereof in takinge up, and bringinge in daylye a convenient number of horses, and all other necessaries for the carryinge of the said Armes, powder, shott, and Amunicion to such parte, or place within our County of Warwick, as the bearer shall directe. And that you appoint a stronge and sufficient Guarde of men, as well for conductinge the same by day through all Counties it must passe, as to watch the same by night, where it is to reste, for which such allowance is to be made as is usually and customary. Hereof wee require you, and every of you whome it may concerne, to use your utmost

diligence, as you tender the good of our service, and will answere your neglects, and contempts at your perills. Given at our Courte at Yorke ye 5th August 1642.

To all Maiors, Sheriffs, Justices of ye Peace, Bayliffs, Constables, Headboroughs, and all other our Officers, Ministers and lovinge Subjects whome it may concerne, and to every of them.

CCCCXXXI. Meeting of the Twenty Four

Hall Papers XI, No. 178. [18 August 1642.] Yt is at this meeetinge agreed that 50*li.* in gold shalbe presented to the Prince by Mr Maior in the behalfe of the Corporacion at his Maiesties comeinge to the Towne this present day.

At which meetinge yt is likewise agreed that the Chamberlains shall take up 100*li.* at Interest for three monethes the Interest to be paied by the Towne in regard of the greate and unusuall disbursement of money for this yeare past. Yt is likewise agreed that yf any of them of the 48^{tie} which are appointed to guard his Mat^{ie} this night followinge shall either faile of that service or shall departe thence untill they be discharged in the morneinge that every of them soe neglectinge that service shall forfeite ijs. vjd.

CCCCXXXII. Meeting of the Twenty Four

Hall Papers XI, No. 179. [21 August 1642.] Yt is at this meeetinge agreed that a Letter shalbe sent unto his Maiestie to certifie his Highnes that the magazin of the Towne is soe small that it doth not amount to soe much as his Maiestie requireth thereby humbly desireinge that that store of powder and shott which the Towne hath may be kept here for the defence of his Royall person and of this corporacion at such tymes as his Mat^{ie} shalbe pleased to come hither, and that the Towne Clarke and Chamberlaine Deken shalbe sent to present that Letter to his Maiestie.

CCCCXXXIII. Letter to the King

Hall Papers XI, No. 180. [21 August 1642.] May it please your most excellent Maiestie upon the receipte of your Highnes Letter I thought good to call a meetinge of both the Companies of this Corporacion to inquire what store of powder Match and bulletts was in the Storehouse or Magazin of the Towne where upon yt manifestly appeared unto me that all the store wee have would not satisfie your

highnes demaund wee haveinge in the whole but twoe barrells and a small quantitie more of powder and match and bulletts not answerable thereto, whereof I was desired by the said Companies to informe your Maiestie and humble in the name of the whole Corporacion to beseech your Highnes that you would be graciously pleased that this small store which wee have may remaine heare at Leicester for the safeguard of your Maiesties Royall person and of this Corporacion at such tymes when your Highnes shalbe pleased to reside here whose sacred person wee the Maior Bayliffs and Burgesses of the Borough of Leicester are ready to defend with our lives and fortunes. Thus haveinge given true relacion to your Highnes of the strength of the Amunitiōn of this Towne I shall in all humilitie and obedience leave your Maiestie to the proteccion of the Allmighty God and ever remaine

Your Maiesties loyall and most obedient subject

Thos Rudiarde Maior.

CCCCXXXIV. *Petition to the King*

Hall Papers XI, No. 174*. [No date.]

To the Kings most excellent Maiestie

The humble peticion of the Maior, Bayliffs, and Burgesses, and of
y^e Gentry, and Comonaltie of the Borough of Leicester

Sheweth unto your most excellent Maiestie

That wee your Maiesties most loiall and obedient Subjects doe most humbly present unto your sacred Maiestie our most humble and hearty thankes, as well for your many former gracious favours to this Towne, as allsoe most espeatially for your Maiesties most gracious Letter of the 8th of this instant September, which this Day most ioyfully came unto us by your Maiesties faithfull servant Sr Henry Hungate, whereby your Maiestie by your gracious expressions therein contayned hath made us alive who were almost dead, and given new courage to us all who were even now overwhelmed with feares, and all ye body and Inhabitants of this Towne desire to returne more true and reall thanks then our words can express: And wee all most humbly beseech your Maiestie to continue your Royall favour and proteccion unto us, whereby our persons houses, lands, and goods may bee preserved from ruine and hurt to the end that wee may still bee able to expresse and doe our utmost faithfull Allegeance, which wee acknowledge to bee most due to your sacred Maiestie And allsoe wee most humbly beseech your Maiestie to appoint some such speciall and

present Order for our peace, and safety, as your Royall Wisdome shall
thinke requisite in these times of dangers

And your Peticioners, as in all duty bound shall ever pray
for your Maties longe and prosperous Raigne over Us.

CCCCXXXV. Record of several visits of the King and Prince Charles

Hall Papers XI, No. 201. [No date.] M^d that upon the twoe
and twentieth day of July 1642 being ffriday about [illegible] our
most gracious Soveraigne Lord Kinge Charles, the most Illustrious
Prince Charles [came] from Nottingham to this Corporacion at
whose cominge Mr Maior Mr Thomas Cook [Burgess?] of the Parlia-
ment for this Borough with most of the Aldermen that had been
Maiors in their Scarlett gownes and tippets and all the rest of the
Companie of the ffour and Twentie and Eight and fforty in decent
apparrell and in their gownes with the Constables to make way for
his Majestys passage and the trained bands to guard his person mett
his Majesty betweene the bridges where Mr Maior Kneelinge upon his
Knee humbly presented the Mace unto his Majestie which he graciously
acceptinge took in his hand and ymedately delivered back againe to
Mr Maior the said Mr Coke kneelinge likewise by Mr Maior made a
speech unto his Majestie which he earnestly listned unto and did like-
wise most graciously accepte which speech beinge ended his Majestie
caused a horse to be delivered to Mr Maior whoe beinge mounted both
the said Companies walkinge before twoe by twoe the youngest beinge
first his Majestie came to the Court gate where beinge allighted
Mr Maior carried the Mace before him into the presence Chamber
where Kissinge his Majesties hand for that night he departed.

Saterday beinge past about the then urgent occasions of the tyme
upon the Sabbath daie in the morneinge his Majestie was pleased to
goe to St Martin's Church to prayer and sermon at which tyme
Mr Maior accompanied with all the rest of the Aldermen and Com-
panies apparrelled as before attended his Majesties cominge to the
Court gate from whence he was pleased to walke on foote through
the streetes by the High Crosse to Church Mr Maior carrying the mace
before his Majestie and the Aldermen and the rest of the Companies
walkeinge before in orderly manner twoe and twoe the youngest first
with Constables with them to make way for his Majesties better passage
to the Church Sermon beinge ended they attended his Majestie in
like manner back againe to the Court gate and soe departed.

The next day beinge Munday his Majestie beinge then to goe out

of the Towne to returne back into Yorkshire Mr Maior and the Aldermen appointed to attende his Majesties goinge but by reason his Majestie went earlyer in the morninge then was expected he had taken horse before Mr Maior or any of the Aldermen was at the court to attend his departure, which (beinge formerly well pleased with the service done by Mr Maior his Majestie was not then displeased).

That upon Thursday the 18th August 1642 about 5 of the Clock in the eveninge &c at whose comeinge Mr Maior Mr Thomas Chapman Recorder with most of the Aldermen that had been Maiors &c And ymedately after Mr Maior presented unto the Prince a faire rought purse with 50 peeces of gold which his Highnesse gratiouly accepted of which beinge done Mr Maior by his Majesties appointment tooke horse both the said companies walkinge before &c.

The next day beinge ffryday his Majestie beinge then to goe out of the Towne Mr Maior attended on his Majestie carrying the Mace before him out of the presence Chamber to the Court gate where his Majestie and the Prince takeinge horse his Majestie gave Mr Maior his hand to Kisse and soe went onward his journey for Stonley Castle in Warwickshire whither he then intended to take his journey.

M^d that in the yeare of the Maioraltie of Mr Thomas Rudiard came his Majestie a third time to this Corporacion with the Illustrious Prince Charles at which tyme by reason that they came hither accidentally not Entendeinge to stay in the towne Mr Maior haveinge noe notice of his Majesties cominge by any of his Officers as formerly went not to attend his Majestie whoe rode through the towne to the Abbey [illegible] returned for a night and soe departed towards Beverley whither he went that day.

CCCCXXXVI. Appointment of Special Watch

Hall Papers XI, No. 181. [25 August 1652.] Yt is likewise agreed that a Watch of Tenn suffycient men shalbe sett on dayly dureinge the continuance of the Troopes and Souleirs in the Towne to prevent dangers and to keepe good order therein the charge thereof to be borne by the Towne and to be dayly paied by the Chamberlaines.

CCCCXXXVII. Letter from Prince Rupert to the Mayor

Original letters, No. 66. [6 Sep. 1642.] Mr Maior, his Maiestie being confident of your fidelitie and desire to doe him all possible service, willed me this day to send for you to my Quarter, and there to deliver to you his pleasure. But I perseaving you are disswaded from comming (by whome, or what pretences I know not) have sent you his Majesties demands.

His Maiestie being now somewhat necessitated by the vast expence he hath beene this long time enforced too, for the safeguard of his Royall person, against the rebellious insurrections of the true Malignant Party, (whoe are now too well knowne, and their irreligeous intentions too plainly discovered by all his loving and obedient subiects) doth earnestly desire and require you and his good subiects of the City of Leicester forthwith to furnish him with Twoe Thousand pounds sterlinc, which hee with much care will take order to see repaid in convenient time and that his Maiesties gratiouse promise I hope will seeme much better security then the publique Faith: which is the usuall assurance that the Party which call themselves Parliament doe give; And you must trust them on it, if you assist not his Maiestie heerby to defend you against them: You must not now goe lesse then your former expressions have spoken you, which induces mee not to doubt of receaving the demanded summe tomorrow by ten of the clocke in the fore noone that I may be

Your freind

Quineboro this 6th day
of September 1642.

Rupert

Postscript

If any disaffected persons with you shall refuse themselves or perswade you to neglect this command, I shall to Morrow appeare before your towne in such a posture with horse, foote, and cannon as shall make you knowe tis more safe to obey then resist his Maiesties Commands.

CCCCXXXVIII. A forced levy of £500

Hall Papers XI, No. 195. [7 September 1642.] Yt is at this meetinge agreed that 500*l.* shalbe taken upp upon the Towne securitye with all possible speede which 500*l.* is intended by all the parties above marked and by divers of the gentrye and commoners of this Corporacion then present to be sent unto his Maiestie upon the Letter sent by the Mightie Prince Rupert, and that the said sume shalbe levied for repayment thereof upon the Inhabitants of this Corporacion by a Taxacion to be made by the Maior and Aldermen of the severall wardes with the assistance of one or more of the Commoners of each severall warde to be nominated by the Alderman thereof.

Hall Papers XI, No. 196. [7 September 1642.] Yt is at this meetinge agreed that Mr Maior Mr Billerssen Mr Watts Mr Tompson Mr Inge and Mr Thomas Blunt Mr Cradock Mr Deken and Mr Wanlye

shall goe over to Prince Rupert to his Court at Queneborow to satisfie his highnesse of the inabilitie of the Towne to satisfie his Maties demaunds in furnishinge his highnesse with the sum of 2000*l.* accordinge to the Princes Letter and to give him a true informacion of the state of the Corporacion.

CCCCXXXIX. Letter from Charles I

Original Letters, No. 67. [8 Sep. 1642.]

Charles R.

Trusty and welbeloved Wee greet you well: Wee have seene a warrant under our Nephew Ruperts hand, dated ye 6th of this Month, requiring from you and other ye Inhabitants of our Towne of Leicester ye loane of 2000*l.* which as Wee doe utterly disavowe and dislike, as being written without our privity or consent Soe Wee doe hereby absolutely free and discharge you and that our Towne from yeelding any obedience to ye same, and by our owne letters to our said Nephew Wee have written to him presently to revoke ye same, as being an Act very displeasing to Us: Wee indeede gave him direccions to disarm such persons there, as appeared to be disaffected to our person, and Government, or ye peace of this our Kingdome, and should have taken it well from any of our Subiects that would voluntarilie assist us with ye loane of Armes or money, But it is soe farre from our hart or intencion by Menaces to compell any to it, as Wee abhorre ye thought of it, and of this truth Our Accions shall beare us testimony Given att Our Court att Nottingham 8 September 1642.

Mayor and Aldermen of Leicester.

CCCCXL. Receipt from Prince Rupert

Original letters, No. 68. [9 Sep. 1642.]

September 9. 1642.

Receyved by me Prince Rupert Prince Palatine of the Rhine, and Generall of all his Mayestyes Cavallerye in this present Expedition, the full summe of five hundred pownds, for his Maiesties use, of the Mayor, Bayliffes and Burgesses of the Borough of Leicester: to be repayed agayne by his Mayestye.

I saye receyved five hundred pownds.

Rupert.

CCCCXL^I. *Arrangements for assessing and collecting
the forced levy*

Hall Papers XI, No. 186. [20 September 1642.] Yt is at this meetinge agreed that all the Subsidie men within this Corporacion shalbe taxed towards the rayseinge of the said 500*l*. after the rate of 8 subsidies and that the rest of the Inhabitants of this Towne shalbe thereto proporcionably taxed by the Cessors for that purpose formerly appointed.**

Yt is at this meetinge agreed that the Constable of each severall ward with one of the Companie of the 48^{tie} within that ward to be appointed by the Alderman of every severall warde shall with the assistance of each severall Alderman withall convenient speede collecte and gather upp the severall summes of money and assessed upon each severall warde for and towards the payment of the said 500*l*.** whoe shall likewise deliver and pay into the handes of the Chamberlaines for the time beinge soe much thereof as they shall soe collecte and gather with all possible speede after they shal^l soe have collected the same.

CCCCXL^{II}. *Letter to Henry Hastings, High Sheriff
of the County of Leicester*

Hall Papers XI, No. 220. [10 January 1642-3.] Noble Sir

Had I conceaved your Letter of the 6th of this instant any way requiring an answer I should have troubled you with the perusal of a few words, but haveinge nothinge at that tyme worth committinge to paper I thought good to answer your Letter by word of mouth As this day I ymparted that Letter to certaine of the Aldermen and those of the most ancyent, whereupon haveinge in our Towne neither Armes nor power to resist wee resolved to morrow to send to the Right hon^{ble} the Lord Grey by our Towne Chamberlaines to desire his Lordshipp to forbear bringinge any forces into this Towne lest otherwise he should be the meanes to cause our prejudice in this Corporacion As for admittinge of forces into the Towne I assure you, Sir, I shall be farr from yt but yf any happen to come I must confesse I knowe not how to prevent them of possessinge the Towne Worthy Sir I understand by some speeches given out by your last Messinger (tending much to my prejudice as I conceive) that you are informed that I should send for the Lord Grey to Leicester the last Saboth day, which I assure you is a false reporte, and soe much troubleth me (knowinge innocency therein) that I earnestly intreate you would be pleased to vindicate me in that behalfe, and yf yt may stand with your

good likinge to lett me know the Informer that thereby I may find out the author of that reporte and that therein I may deale as shalbe thought meete, And yf yt soe happen that this bearer of himselfe hath raised this reporte I shall humbly desire you would be pleased to deale with him accordinge to his demerite or to send him over againe to me that I may take such course with him as therein I shall thinke requisite Thus in somme haste I take leave and rest

Yours in all assurance of service

Richard Ludlam Maior.

Leic^r this 16th of
January 1642.

CCCCXLIII. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XI, No. 221. [14 January 1642/3.] Yt is at this Hall agreed that from henceforth a continued watch shall be sett at every gate in the towne night and day at the pleasure of Mr Maior and Justices (that is to say) soe many in a Warde as watch upon the Summer Watch and that every house shall watch in their turne as in the Summer and at there owne charge which watch shalbe warned by the Constable or Thirdborough of such warde, and yt is further agreed that every householder shall watch for his owne house or sett on a suffcyent man in his stead to be allowed of by the Alderman of each severall ward or such other Alderman as he shall depute to take the paines in his behalfe And yf in case any Inhabitant either ffreeman or other being in the discretion of M^r Maior and the Alderman of the ward where he shall dwell a fitt man to watch shall refuse to watch accordinge to this Order that then every one, soe refusing to watch shall forfeite for every default ijs. to be levied by distresse and sale of the Offenders goods rendringe to the owner the Overplus parte thereof to be given to and for a Watchman to be hired in his stead that soe refuse to watch and the residue to be bestowed to the use of the poore of the Parish where the money shall be forfeited to be disposed at the discretion of the Overseers of the poore of the same Parish And yt is further ordered that twoe of the 48^{tie} and one Constable and Thirdborow shall walke every night to oversee that watch successively in their turnes one after another up the like paine to be levied as aforesaid and disposed to the use of the poore of the Parish where the offender shall inhabite at the discretion of the overseers of that Parish.

CCCCXLIV. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XI, No. 148. [4 March 1642/3.] Yt is at this Hall agreed that Mr Bent the Vicar of St Maryes shall haue 10*l.* per Ann'r out of the Towne Chamber the said 10*l.* to be p[aid] and to continue dureinge the pleasure of the Towne.

CCCCXLV. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1641-42**Rents increased.*

Item received of Edward Palmer Towne Clerke for his whole yeeres rent for y^e fynes and amercyaments in the Courte ended at Michelmas 1642. *jli.*

Other receipts.

Item received of Mr John Beeby as a Gratuitie upon his elleccion into the Office of Bayliffe of this Borough of Leicester xxxvli.

Item received of Mr Speechley and Mr Cradock to the use of the Corporacion whereof 50*l.* was presented to Prince Charles and the other 50*l.* paid to Mr Coleman upon the renewinge of the lease for the profitts and perquisites of the Courte. *Cl.*

Freemen.

John Beeby gent a stranger made free by consent of a Common Hall houlden the 22th day of October 1640 and sworne ye 18th day of October 1641 his fyne *vli.* [note at bottom].

Q^r. yf all the countrie butchers that keepe the markett and others vizt Mercers etc ought not to paie allsoe for their freedome for markett daies.

Fees wages etc.

Item paid to William Gamble Armorer for dressinge 14 Caleivers and twoe musketts and for other worke done as appeares by bill. *ijijli. vijs. vjd.*

Item paid to Richard Whittle joyner for Radres for the said Caleivers *ijs. viijd.*

Item paid to the said William Gamble for 94 pounds of musquett bulletts and for bulletts for the said Caleivers as appeareth by bill *xixs. vjd.*

Item paid to a Messinger that came from Lichfeld to acquainte Mr Maior with a plott intended to be done by the Papist upon the Protestants. *ijs.*

Item paid to the Constable of Ashbie Delazouch that came to Mr Maior and confirmed the same reporte *js.*

Item paid to Thomas Sheene by consent of a Common Hall towards his charges about buyinge of the greate house called Lords place. *jli.*

Item paid Mr Richard Barnes by consent of a Common Hall towards his charges into London to give evidence concerninge the Deputie Lievetennants of the Countie *jli.*

Item paid for 5 Constables staves at his Majesties comeinge to Towne *iijs. ijd.*

Item paid which was spent at Mr Blunts by Mr Maior and the Aldermen which attended on Prince Rupert at Queneborow. *vs.*

Item paid which was spent by Mr Maior and the Aldermen upon their goeing to Queneborow the second day to Prince Ruperts. *vs. vjd.*

Item given to six Dragoners which came to fetch the *500li.* lent by this Corporacion upon Prince Ruperts demand to the use of his Majestie *vjs.*

Item paid which was spent at the Angell by Mr Maiors appointment when the Prince sent in carriages to be garded by the Towne.

Item paid which was spent upon Sir Henry Hungates men when he brought his Majesties gracious Letter to the Towne concerninge the *2000li.* demanded by Prince Rupert *is. iiijd.*

Item paid for a horsehire for Mr William Billers Junior to Queneborow when he went with Mr Maior and the Aldermen to Prince Rupert *is.*

Item paid which was presented to Prince Charles by this Corporacion *Lli.*

Item paid for Mr Wanlyes horse and charges in goeing to Grantham to inquire about the Commission of Arraie by consent of a Common Hall. *vijs. iiijd.*

Item paid to the trained Souldiers for three daies service at his Majesties comeinge to the Towne *vijli. vjs. viijd.*

Item paid to William Gamble for armeinge them *ijs.*

Item paid to the Officers for leadeinge the trained band at that Tyme and for other charges as appears by bill. *xixs. viijd.*

* *Item* paid for colours for the trained bands then *ljli.*

Item paid to William Boley for his paines and his horse hire to bringe intelligence of his Majesties comeinge to Towne *ijs.*

Item paid a messinger for goeing to Mr Hastings about a waggon of Ammunition left in the Towne by Mr Maiors appointment. *is. ixjd.*

Item paid Mr Palmer for his charges and horse hire in goeing to Stonley Abbie with a Letter to his Majestie about the gunpowder *ixs. vjd.*

Item paid for a purse wherein the *50li.* was presented to Prince Charles at his Majesties second comeinge to this Towne *jli.*

Item paid for a continued watch in severall places of the Towne

dureinge the continuance of the sicknesse in Thrumaston Burstall Whetstone and Okeham that is to say for one whole yeare as appeares by bill. *xlvjli. viijs. vijd.*

Item paid to a Messinger that brought the Acte of Parliament and Commission concerninge the greate tax of 4,000,000*li. iijs. iiijd.*

Repaires.

Item paid for Chaines used at the Southgate as appeares by bill. *xiiijs.*

Item paied for 5 locks at the five gates as appeares by bill. *vjs.*

Item paied for Chaines for the East and West gates and at St Sundaies bridge as appeares by bill *iijli. is. xd.*

Item paid for 4 postes for the West gate and St Sundaies bridge and for other workmanshapp there as appeares by bill *ili. xijs. ixjd.*

Item paid for a locke and a key sett upon the Armory doore by Mr Maiors appointment vs.

Item paid for a lock at the Westgate and for mendinge the little gate and for other charges and workemanshipp about the same as appeares by bill. *vijs. vijd.*

New Yeeres Giffts etc.

Item given to the Bishopp of Lincolne at his comeinge to Towne October the 9th 3 gallons 1 quarte 1 pynte of Canarie 6 gallons bate a pynte of Clarett and twoe sugar loves weighinge 5 pounds bate 4 ounces *ijli. iijs. vjd.*

Item given to Prince Ruperte at his firste comeinge to Towne one gallon of white wyne one pottle of clarett one pottle of Canarie and two pound of sugar *ixs. vjd.*

Item given him more at his second comeing to the Towne 2 gallons of Canarie 2 gallons of Clarett twoe gallons of Sacke and 3 pounds of Sugar. *ili. xvjs. vjd.*

[Gift given to Mr Angell Lecturer.]

Proclamacions.

Item paid to a Messinger that brought the Proclamacion concerninge the suppressinge the Rebellion under the command of the Earle of Essex and the offer of his Majesties gracious pardon *iijs. iiijd.*

Item paid to a Messinger that brought a Proclamacion requireing the aide of his Majesties subiects on the north side Trent. *iijs. iiijd.*

Receipts DCCCxxxvli. *xijs. ixjd.*

Expenses DCCCl. *xvjs. id.*

Allowed *vli.*

There remains *xxxli. xvjs. viijd.*

CCCCXLVI. Common Hall

Hall Papers XI, No. 251. [2 May 1643.] At this Common hall yt is agreed that y^e Towne plate or soe much thereof as Mr Maior and the Chamberlains shall think fitt shalbe soould forthwith at the best rate and the money thereof raised to be employed towards the payement of the Townes debts.

At this Hall yt is agreed that the tax now to be made for the raisinge of money disbursed for and towards the payment of the trained band and for other necessary occasions for the defence of the Towne shall be forthwith made by Mr Maior and the Aldermen of the severall Wards within this borough with the assistance of the persons hereafter mencioned at this hall elected and chosen for that purpose out of the said severall Wards viz: Mr John Birkhead William Headley Mr Edmund Johnson Mr Edward [Graye] Mr John Somerfeild Mr Thomas Bursuall Mr John Brewerm Mr Alexander Baker Samuel Wanley [William] Ludlam Anthony Curtice and for the ffee by Mr William Speechey and Mr Thomas Blunt.

And that the Chamberlins shall collecte the moneys taxed upon both the Companies and the Constables of the severall wards shall collecte the moneys taxed upon the Gentry and Commoners within the severall Wards and shall pay in the same to the Chamberlaines and yf any person or persons shall refuse to pay the said tax that then the Constable of such ward where such parties shall happen to dwell shall carry up every such person soe refuseing the same before the right honorable Thomas Lord Grey or some other of the Committee to be dealt with as they in their discretion shall thinke fitt.

CCCCXLVII. Meeting of the Twenty Four

Hall Papers XI, No. 280. [14 September 1643.] It is allsoe thought fitt and agreed that the defective securitie for Sir Thomas White's money shalbe forthwith renewed the severall £10 due the ffirst of August last presently called in, and that the rest of Mr Heyrick's money not yet brought shall with all speede be called in and lent out accordinge to the will.

CCCCXLVIII. Allocation of John Parker's charity

Hall Papers XI, No. 285 (back). [1643]. Whereas John Parker late of the Parish of St Pancras in Soper Lane London but deceased beyond the sea did by his last will and testament beareinge date the

7th daie of Maie 1639 will and bequeath unto the Maior and Towne of Leicester £50 for the use of the poore of the said Towne and thereby desired that yt should be lent out in small sommes at the discretion of the Maior Aldermen and Commons to poore Knitters Lacemakers and weavers or such other poore handcraftsmen or women as they shall thinke fitt, and each summe to be lett for three yeares gratis And yf that the Maior Aldermen and 48^{tie} as they are called please to meet in the Towne and soe to settle this business that yt may be for a continued good for their poore he did further by the same Will give unto them to be spent in a dinner £6 and to the Clerke for his care and paines therein xxs. as by the same Will remaininge upon Record in the hands of the Register of the Prerogative court of Canterbury amongst other things Relacion thereto being had may appear Yt is at this Hall therefore by a generall consent of all the parties then present Ordered and agreed that the said ffifty pounds soe given by the said Mr Parker as aforesaid shall from henceforth for ever be lent out from three yeares to three yeares gratis to ffive poore Knitters Lacemakers or Weavers or poore handcraftsmen or women vizt to every of them £10, and those to be such onely as by ye Maior Aldermen and 48^{tie} for the tyme beinge shalbe thought fitt and allowed of they every of them first [comeing] bound before they receive the same or any parcell thereof to the Maior Bayliffs and Burgesses of this Borough of Leicester their Successors and Assignes with twoe sufficent suretyes to be approved by the said Maior Aldermen and 48^{tie} for the tyme beinge or the greater parte of theire by severall obligacion in the generall summe of £20 a peece Condic[ion] the true payment of the said severall summes of £10 to the said Maior Bayliffs and Burgesses their Successors and assignes at three years end from the tyme of the lendinge thereof with such clauses and reservacions (?) as to the better securinge of the said severall summes of £10 soe to be lent out as aforesaid as by the Maior Aldermen and 48^{tie} shalbe thought fitt and devised, which said £50 at this Hall yt is further agreed and ordered [shalbe] for three yeares gratis from the feaste of St Thomas thappostle now next ensuinge and [illegible] Kymberley Robert Ludlam Richard Stuart George Curtice and Hugh Lewys and upon such [security as is] to the likeinge of the now Maior and Aldermen or the greater parte or number of them.

CCCCXLIX. *Meeting of the Twenty Four*

Hall Papers XI, No. 265. [25 July 1643?] Yt is at this meetinge thought good and agreed that Mr Hugh Watts shall have Interest paied him for the £400 lent by his father to this Corporacion which was paied in parte of the £500 given to Prince Rupert upon his demaund of £2000 from this Corporacion, after the rate of six pounds per Cent for soe longe as his money was unpaied after the death of his father.

CCCCL. *Meeting of the Twenty Four*

Hall Papers XI, No. 322. [16 February 1643/4.] Yt is at this meeetinge thought good and agreed that Mr Thomas Welden notwithstandinge the charge brought against him by Mr Maior shall continue in his place beinge Macebearer upon his submission to Mr Maior and M^rs Maiores and upon his acknowledgmet that he is sory he hath offended them.

CCCL. *Petition of Thomas Weldon, Macebearer*

Hall Papers XI, No. 295. [No date.] To the Right Worshipfull the Maior and Aldermen of the Burrough of Leicester and to the Rest of the Societye present. * * *

Sheweth That your Peticioner was by the Maior and Aldermen of this Burrough elected Macebearer, And upon some distaste taken was by the present Mr Major suspended of his attendance, That afterwards upon an open and full heareinge of the cause before Mr Maior and Aldermen your Peticioner was confirmed in his said office.

That notwithstandinge the said confirmacion Mr Maior hath ever since not onely held your Peticioner in suspense but allsoe hath denied him of his ffee and appurtenances to his office, detayned his gowne (which under favour (as your Peticioner conceives) ought rather to be in his your Peticioners custodye then in any others it beinge the Towne Livery and your Peticioner servant to the same) and allsoe deprived him of his dyett.

Your Peticioner humbly prayes an allocacion of his fees his wages as formerly they have been ordred by this hall, the Restitution of his gowne And such allowance for his dyett (in Respect

after soe many tenders of service as have beene made and still rejected) shalbe thought meete

And your peticioner will dayly pray.

The Peticioner is to have his Gowne delivered upon request and to have a further answer at the next hall.

CCCLII. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XI, No. 298. [1642.] Yt is at this Hall likewise agreed that the new Chamberlaines shall pay the Officers [employed on] the Marshall affaires their paie as formerly hath beene paied, and that M^r Weldon from the tyme he [*illegible*] hath beene Clerke of the Watch and soe longe as he shall soe continue shall have paied by the Chamberlaines three shillings four pence by the weeke for his paines he first giveing an Account what money he hath alreadly received for default or otherwise and collectinge what moneyes there is [now due].

CCCLIII. *Meeting of the Twenty Four*

Hall Papers XI, No. 323. [No date.] Yt is at this meetinge thought good and agreed that John Beeby Bayliffe of this Borough of Leicester shall hold and enjoye such parte of the house in the occupacion of Richard Painter, heretofore used for the house of Correction, to be used as a Common Gaole as shall be usefull for that purpose for one yeare from Lady day next payinge 2s. 6d. Rent for the same And that what charge he shalbe att in fittinge yt for that purpose yf he leave the said house at the yeares end, he shall have halfe his said charges paid him out of the towne purse.

CCCLIV. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1642-43*

[A great deal which usually comes into the accounts is left out, e.g. Chief Rents paid (except xijd. for a broad arrowe), Other Rents Chief Rents etc, S. Margarets Guild; Corpus Christi Guild, S. Mary's Closes, Chief Rents paid out of lands (except is. iiijd. to St Martins Oxford). M^r Manbey St Margarets Guild Town obiit lands, College of Blessed Virgin, C. C. Guild. Castrum Leic down to Shops taken down etc.]

Item paied to the Companie of Taylers within the said Borough of Leicester reserved to them and their successors as a rent charge for ever is. viijd.

Item paied to the Bayliffs of the Augmentacion lands due to Leicester Abbey at the feast of St Michaell tharchangell 1643. vijs.

Item paied to the poore of the Old hospitall for 52 weeks paie at 3*l.* 7*s.* by the weeke in toto CLxxvj*l.* iijs.

Item paied them for woodd and cole money for one whole yeare xiii*l.* xiijs. iiijd.

Item paied them more upon Fryday before St Andrews day for halfe penny money for one whole yeare xli. xvjs. viijd.

Item paied them for Gowne money for one whole yeare xli.

Item paied them for Lampe money for the same yeare ili.

Item paied them more for Communion money for the same yeare vijs. viijd.

Item paied them more for five penny and six penny money for one whole yeare beinge the gift of the Lady Harvey iiiij*l.* xjs. viijd.

Item paied to the Reeder of the hospitall for his whole yeares paie vli.

Item paied to Mr Maior his halfe yeares fee as Master of the hospitall vj*l.* xiijs. iiijd.

Item paied to the said poore called Drovers money ij*l.*

Item paied to the poore of St Joanes out of the hospitall allowance ixs. viijd.

Fees wages etc.

Item spent in horse hire and charges in goeinge to London to sell the Towne plate ij*l.*

Item paied to Mr Palmer for horse hire and charges in goinge to Ashby Delazouch to Generall Hastings by Mr Maiors appointment lxs.

Item paied to William Hoggs for 4 linkes to light the forces into the Towne when they came from Melton is. viijd.

Item paied for clenseinge the East gate beinge scarce passable for want of clenseinge vjd.

Item paied to John Basse for himselfe and his horse for goeinge to Daintry when the Kinges Army were at Banbury by Mr Maiors appointment vjs.

Item paied for 27*l.* of Gunpowder for the townes use ij*l.* vjd.

Item paied for two barrells of Gunpowder for the Townes use and for carriage thereof ix*l.* xjs.

Item given to twoe Officers that attended the Committee for the Kings Revenue for procuringe a dispatch in the business vs. vjd.

Item paied to Joseph Bradley for his paines and for horsehire in goeinge to Coventry to inquire after the feight at Keynton by Mr Maiors appointment vjs. vjd.

*Item paied to Mr Hugh Watts which was borrowed of his father
for the Townes use CCCC.*

*Item paid to Mr Hugh Watts for the interest of the 400*li.* before
mentioned for 6 monethes at 6*li.* per Cent by the year xij*li.**

CCCLV. *Letter from the "Committee for the Two Kingdoms"*

Hall Papers XI, No. 332. [15 March 1644/5.] Gentlemen

The Committee for the Two Kingdome being intrusted by the Parliament with the disposall of the money that shall arise by the Ordinance of Parliament of the eighteenth of October last for the releif of the Brittish Armes in Ireland and being much sollicited for supplying of the pressing wants of those Armes and for discharging of the engagements they have contracted for Victuall Armes and Clothes by them already provided for that purpose upon the credit of that Ordinance They cannot but take notice that notwithstanding the printed Copies of that Ordinance were sent unto you above three monethes since and recommended by the Letters of the Speakers of both Houses as a Service much conducing to the preserving of those fforces and the whole well affected Protestant party in that Kingdome There is yet now at the end of almost seaven monethes no money brought in thereupon to the Treasurer nor any accompt given by you the Committee of that Towne of your proceedinge therein And therefore they have thought fitt hereby to putt you in mind of the importance of the service (which ought not to be neglected) and to desire your speedy and effectuall accompt thereof, by sending the moneys that are assessed and collected forthwith to the Treasurer in London named in the Ordinance, and by your further proceeding therein with effect for the accomplishment of the whole Work in that Towne which is not yet so forward as other places that are more remote and thought lesse able Wherein wee doubt not of your care and good endeavours

Signed in the Name and by the Warrant of
the Committee of both kingdomes by your

Derby House

very Loving ffreinds

xv March 1644.

W. Say and Seale

Th. Lincoln.

(On the back.)

To our very loving ffreinds the Committee in the Towne of Leicester appointed by the Ordinance of the Parliament of the eighteenth of October last for the Assessement to be made there for the present releif of the British Army in Ireland.

CCCLVI. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XI, No. 382. [22 August 1644.] At this Hall yt is ordered and agreed that a new mace shalbe bought about the size of the Old Mace and as neere to the price as conveniently maybe (the Old Mace being taken away at the takeinge of the towne by the Kings Armie) the charge of the Mace to be defraied out of the Chamber of the towne. And that twoe Chamberlaines Staves shall be provided with silver and gilt bosses ingraven with the townes Armes accordinge or neere to the fashion of the former staves at the discretion of the Chamberlaines.

Allsoe yt is agreed that the money due to the poore out of the fforrest close given by his Majestie to that use at the disaforestinge thereof, that the Countesse of Deven her money given to the poore and widow Ossiters money given to that use shall be distributed accordinge to the Donors intent soe soone as the moneyes can be gott.

Yt is allsoe agreed that a Common Seale for the Corporacion, a Seale of Office and the Maiors Seale, accordinge to the former Seales lately used for the Towne and taken away allsoe at the takeinge of the towne shall be provided at the townes charge.

CCCLVII. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XI, No. 402. [14 September 1644.] Att this Hall yt is agreed and ordered by the wholle companie of the ffoure and twentie here present that [whosoever] of that Company shall happen to be chosen Maior for this Corporacion for the next [year] shall take that Office upon him and shall serve the same without excepcion in anywise whatsoever.

Yt is allsoe further agreed and ordered by the wholle Hall that there shall be a new Eleccion of another than the Maior upon this day to serve for the yeare followinge and that whosoever shalbe chosen shall serve that office without acceptinge any ffynes whatsoever.

CCCLVIII. *Meeting of the Twenty Four*

Hall Papers XI, No. 291. [9 November 1644.] Yt is at this meeting thought fitt and agreed that the Committee shalbe desired to grant their warrant to distraine for the arreares of the moneyes taxed towards the raysinge of horse by this Corporacion.

CCCLIX. *Letter from Grey of Wark and W^m Lenthall*

Original letters, No. 69. [17 Dec. 1644.] Gentlemen You may perceive by the printed Copies of the Ordinance of Parliament here-with sent you, that after great Sommes raised by Adventures, Loanes, and Contribucions are spent the continuing miserable pressing wants of the protestants in Ireland and the Armies standing for their defence have necessitated a Resolucion and course (not untill now used by the Parliament for that Kingdome) to raise further moneys for their more certaine and effectuall supply by a weekly Assessment on the severall Counties of this Kingdome, Wherein the Lords and Commons (well weighing the great burthen which the troubles here do still fasten upon the good people of this land) have so ordered both the sommes now to be raised, and the times and manner of payment as may be with the least preiudice to this Kingdome, and yet being readily paid and brought in according to those times, satisfy the expectacions of the Armies in Ireland, and with Gods blessing enable them to prosecute the Warre there with effect to the preservacion of that Kingdome, and the greater ease and security of this. And therefore the Lords and Commons have given Us order to recommend hereby unto your best care and endeavours, the speedy and effectuall pursuance and execucion of this Ordinance in that Towne, according to the tend and true intent thereof, both for making the Assessment, collectinge the moneys, and bringing them in to the Tr[easury] Wherein because the present necessities of these Armies, who have been long unsupplied, have caused the Committee appointed to manage this Affayre, to contract with some persons for the present delivery of great quantities of Armes, Clothes, and Victuall, and for payment to be made at set times with the moneys coming in by this way. It is desired that, the first three moneths in the Ordinance being now fullye expired, Your first assessment and Levy may be made and brought in for six moneths together which will but answer the engagement of the Committee, and yet much encourage those that shall furnish Commodities by way of Advance upon the credit of the Ordinance: And so not doubting of your good affections and industry in a matter of so great consequence to the true Protestant religion, and the publique good we rest

Your very loving friends

Westminster

17 December 1644.

Grey of Wark Speaker of the

House of Peers p [illegible]

W^m Lenthall Speaker of ye

house of Commons.

CCCCLX. Meeting of the Twenty Four

Hall Papers XI, No. 303. [[21 Dec.] 1644.] Yt is allsoe further ordered and agreed that a tax of eight weekes accordinge to the monethly tax shall forthwith be made upon the inhabitants of this Corporacion of £12*3* or thereabouts for payment of such money as the late Chamberlaines John Oley Robert Blunt Thomas Stringer and Phillip Mann have formerly disbursed or promised payment of above the military affires (*sic*) of the Towne beside what formerly received upon taxes allready made and beside £13*1* expected to be paied by the Committee to the aforesaid late Chamberlaines for moneyes laied out for the publick service: And that the military Officers of the Towne shall take the arreares of the five former taxes in parte of theire paie formerly due to them by the towne to be indifferently divided amongst them.

CCCCLXI. Meeting of the Twenty Four

Hall Papers XI, No. 345. [9th day of.] At this meetinge it is thought good by the parties above marked by and with the consent and good likeinge of Richard Nurse of the Hospitall of the foundacion of William Wigston deceased that the 100*l.* given and bequeathed by the last will and testament of Thomas Nurse sonne of the said Richard to be delivered unto him to releve his wants dureinge his life the remainder at his decease to be given to the poore of this Corporacion shalbe taken into the Townes hands payinge to the said Richard Nurse Eight pounds per Annum dureinge his life to be paid quarterly, and after the decease of the said Richard Nurse, then to be disposed of accordinge to the true intente and meaninge of the last will and testament of the said Thomas Nurse.

*CCCCLXII. Chamberlains' Accounts. 1643-44**Rents of Assize and Rents at Will.*

Imprimis received for the Townes ancyent fee simple rents for the saide yeare ended at Michaelmas 1644 the particulars whereof doe appeare in and by the rentall of the Townes lands for the same yeare the summe of *xli. ijs. ix d.*

[In earlier accounts it was *xxxvii. ixs. ix d.*]

Other rents for lands. College of Blessed Virgin etc.

Other rents for certaine tenements in the Newarke of Leicester.

Received of the tenants and Occupiers of the aforesaid Tenements *iiijli. viijs. viijd.* whereof paialble to his Majestie yearly *iiijli. xvjs. id.*

Other receipts.

Imprimis received of M^r Nicholas Seagrave in parte of the *40*l.** given to the Towne by an award in satisfaccion of the *100*l.** given to the use of the poore of this towne by M^r James Andrew deceased one of the Aldermen of this Corporacion this beinge the last payment. *xli.*

Item paid for horse-hire and twoe dayes charges in goeinge to Coventry to provide the 8 widdowes gownes given by M^r Ives over and besides the money given to provide the said Gownes vs. [In the margin] Not to be allowed hereafter.

Item paid at severall tymes for beare for Carters and others when the Towne went wholly out to repaire the workes by M^r Maiors appointment. *ij*l.* xijs. xjd.*

Item paid to M^r Daniell Abney which he disbursed about the takeing downe and settinge up againe of certaine houses which was taken downe by Iniunction from the Governor beyond the South gate Centry by M^r Maiors appointment *xvi.*

Item paid to Abraham Inge Carpenter for takeinge downe and settinge upp againe of William Sumners house he beinge a very poore man yt beinge holden in fee farme from the towne by M^r Maiors appointment. *ij*l.**

Item given to twoe of the Right Honorable the Lord Greys Trumpeters by M^r Maiors appointment. *ijs. vjd.*

Item given more to his Lordshipps trumpeters at an other tyme by M^r Maiors appointment *ijs. vjd.*

[Both entries scratched out.]

Item given to 13 Souldiers which came from Newarke and then latly prisoners there beinge in greate want and upon their journey to their [homes] *vjs. vjd.*

Item paied to Richard Woodland for beare which was given to the towne souldiers at an Alarme the last day of March by M^r Maiors appointment *vjs.*

New yeare guifts etc.

Item given to Sir William Fairfax his Chaplain *1 qt* of sack. *is. iiijd.*

[Various guifts to strange ministers.]

Supers allowed.

Robert Johnsons house in the Bellgrave gate beinge a Centryhouse *xiijs. iiijd.*

Receipts DCCXL*l.* xvjs. viijd.
Payments DCxxxix*l.* xijs. iiijd.
Allowed Lxxvij*l.* xixs. jd.
And So remaineth etc. xxij*l.* iiijs. iiijd.

This accompt was reviewed and heard at a Comon Hall holden
febr: 26 1646.

CCCCLXIII. *Meeting of the Mayor and Aldermen*

Hall Papers XI, No. 326. [29 March 1645.] Yt is at this meetinge thought good and agreed that a Tax of £20 or thereabouts shalbe made presently to be disposed of for and towards the settinge upp of such poore peoples houses in St Maryes Parish as are or shall be taken downe by reason of the publick affaires, the said houses to be such as by Mr Abney and Mr Somerfeild shalbe thought fitt and the money to be disposed at their discretion.

CCCCLXIV. *Meeting of Commissioners*

Hall Papers XI, No. 338. [10 April 1645.] Yt is at this meetinge agreed that Bartholomew Gracedeu shall hold that ground in the Markett place where upon he hath lately built a kitchen as tenant at will to the towne payinge yearely therefore 10s. at Michaelmas and Lady day equally and payinge allsoe one yeares Rent behind till Lady day last being 10s. more.

At this meetinge yt is agreed that the new Chamberlaines shall hold the horse faire leyes for this yeare that is to say from Lady Day last untill that time twelve moneth aloweinge 20s. to the towne for the same, yt beinge ymployed in keepinge the posthorses for this Corporacion.

CCCCLXV. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XI, No. 340. [19 April 1645?] Yt is at this Hall allsoe agreed that the Towne Clarke undertakeinge the care of such Taxes as hereafter shalbe made for makeinge the tax bills and other businesse concerneinge the Militia shall have for his care and paines therein 4s. out of every tax hereafter to be made ffive markes for his care and paines in bringeinge in the arreates now behind and his paines formerly taken in that business.

Yt is allsoe further agreed that soe longe as Mr Maior shall suspend Mr Wheldens attendance the Chamberlaines shall pay Mr Welden

iij*li.* vjs. vijd. quarterly out of the money heretofore allowed Mr Maior by the Towne for his Officers dyett.

Yt is further ordered that the Captains and other Officers shall all of them watch for their houses as other Inhabitants of the Towne over and besides their watch they performe for their severall offices.

CCCCLXVI. Order concerning defence of the town

Hall Papers XI, No. 334. [19 April 1645.] By the [Committee of] Leic^r ffor the necessary defense and safety of the towne and to prevent the enemyes approaches to the ffortifications thereof and the danger thereof It is ordered that the Grange howses and all buildings walls thereto belonginge or adjoyninge lyinge neare the publicke works on the South side of the towne shalbe taken downe and removed and the ground there levelled before Wensday next. And the owners and inhabitants of the said Granges and premisses are ordered and required to take downe and dispose the same according to this Order

Pe: Temple Vic'	John Browne
Tho: Grey	ffr. Smalley
ffrancis Hacker	John Swynfen.

If defalt be made herein the soldiers are ordered to putt this order in present operation and Colonell Grey is desired to see it done.

xix^o April 1645.

**CCCCLXVII. Letter concerning the assessment for the army
in Ireland**

Hall Papers XI, No. 344. [29 April 1645.] Right hon^{ble}

Upon the receipte of yours of the fifteenth of March last which came to our hands the 24th of this instant wee could doe no lesse then present you with theise lynes and humbly to acquaint you with our proceedinge in the Borough of Leicester concerneinge the Assessement for the present use of the Brittish Armie in Ireland May yt please you upon the receipte of the Ordinance to that purpose with all possible speede we assessed our proporcione of the summe charged upon the Towne and countie of Leicester for the ffirſt ſix moneths and thereof retorneſt upp x marcs accordinge to the direccion of the ſaid Ordinance (which wee presum will appeare to be delivered in accordingly) for the better diſpatch whereof twoe able collectors was allſoe appointed whoe have taken ſuch care and paines therein as that wee doubtē not but our proporcione will ſuddenly be retorneſt to the Recievers nominated

for that purpose which the said Collectors have promised to performe before your trustie Messinger sent downe in that behalfe within 14 dayes comeinge Thus haveinge given Accompt of our proceedings in that businesse wee shall for the present take leave and rest assureinge you that wee are

Your assured loveinge ffreinds to serve.

Leicester this 29th of April 1645.

To the Right hon^{ble} the Committee of both Kingdomes sittinge at Derby house These humbly present.

CCCCLXVIII. *Letter from George Digby*

Original Letters, No. 70. [1 June 1645.]

Charles R.

Our will and pleasure is That forthwith you cause to be leavyed upon ye inhabitants of our Towne of Leicester ye summe of two thousand pounds sterlinc And that you cause ye same to be payd unto our trustie and wel beloved John Ashburnham Esqr our Treasurer at Warrs for ye use of our Army And your diligent performance hereof shall be taken by us as an expression of your desire to redeeme and expiate your high offences It being an effect of our clemency that wee afford you ye meanes of doing it In this way whereas you may iustly expect from us all rigour and severitie Given at our Courte at Leicester ye first day of June in ye one and twentith yeare of our raigne

By his Maiesties Comand
George Digby.

To ye late Maior Aldermen and Corporacion of our Towne of Leicester.

CCCCLXIX. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XI, No. 444. [11th November 1645.] Yt is at this Hall ordered that noe man shalbe admitted as a ffreeman of this Burrough in time to come (claymeinge the same as haveinge served an Apprenticeship) unless such person have served his apprentish to some trade that usually and legally take Apprentices accordinge to the lawe and good customes of this Burrough.

Ytt is allsoe ordered upon the Peticion of John Birch servant to the towne that for tyme to come he shall have his accustomed wages to bee paid him as formerly.

CCCLXX. *Meeting of the Twenty Four*

Hall Papers XI, No. 450. [12 November 1645.] Itt is att this meetinge agreed and ordered for the preservacion of peace and good order betwixt the said Companies and prevencion of many inconveniences formerly happeninge by the discoverie of secretts and debates of the Hall that if any member of the said Companies shall at any tyme hereafter publishe any of the occurrances debates and conclusions whatsoever concerninge the Corporacion to the prejudice thereof then everie such person of either companies upon proofe of any such ill carriage by one or more sufficient witnesses before Mr Maior for the tyme beinge shall forfeit the summe of ffive pounds ipso facto to be levied by distresse on the offenders goodes to be ymploied to use of the poore where the offender shall live or the poore of the Corporacion in generall.

CCCLXXI. *Parliamentary election*

Hall Papers XI, No. 451. [17 November 1645.] An Assemblie of the Maior Bayliffes and Burgesses of the Burrough aforesaid by virtue of a warrantt from John Stafford Sheriff of the County of Leicester grounded on his Majesty's writt to them directed for the choseinge of a Burgessesse of Parliament in the place of Mr Thomas Cooke late Burgessesse of the Burrough aforesaid and rendered incapable of that service as by the said writt and warrant may appeare.

Peter Temple Esquire was then freely chosen a Burgessesse for this Burrough of Leicester to serve in the present Parliament and was then sworne a ffreeman of this Burrough and tooke the oath of supremacie and allegiance.

Hall Papers XI, No. 421. Whereas Thomas Coke Esquire was lately elected one of the Burgessesses for the said Burrough of Leicester for the present Parliament begunn at the Cittie of Westminster the third day of November in the sixteenth yeare of the reigne of our Sovereign Lord the King's Majesty that nowe is and being soe chosen and in due manner retorne into the Lower House for the Government of the Kingdom of England accordinge to the forme of the Statute in that case made as amongst the records of the Parliament aforesaid remaininge in his Majesty's High Court of Chancery more plainly appeareth and the said Thomas Coke sithence by the judgment of the House of Commons is adjudged incapable to sitt any longer there as a member of the same duringe the present Parliament.

CCCCLXXII. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XI, No. 414. [1645-6.] This day yt is agreed that the Commission shall be renewed unto all them that have been Maiors Mr Danner Abney Mr John Somerfeild Mr George Martin, Mr John Fowlyer of the 24^{tie} John Hinde William Franke Thomas Stringer and Phillip Mann of the 48^{tie}, and that the said Commissioners shall have power to conclude what abatement shall be made of all or any of the tenants rents for the yeares past.

CCCCLXXIII. *Petition to the House of Commons*

Hall Papers XI, No. 509. [No date.] To the Right Honourable the Commons assembled in Parliament.

The humble peticion of the well affected Inhabitants
of the Borough of Leicester

Humbly sheweth

That whereas there are ffive ancient parishe churches in the said Borough all of them impropriate, in none of them sufficient meanes to mainetaine an able minister, and in two of them not tenn pounds per Annum for servinge the Cure due to either Minister, for the necessarie supply whereof the matter beinge of so greate concernement: for Gods glory and the good of the people, and wee doubt not but a thinge in your prime intencions, the towne beinge populous, the Inhabitants plundered and much disabled, and the setlinge of an able ministery in a Corporacion beinge very advantagious to the whole Countye for the expellinge of error and ignorance, and maintenance of union:

- Our humble request to this honourable house is that you would be pleased to take the premisses into your grave and serious consideracion imploringe your favorable furtherance for a Competent maintenance to be settled upon able ministers in the paryshes, out of the sequestered estates of the Bishopp of Elye in Burton Lazars and Sir John Pales in Sysonby in the Countie of Leicester or elsewhere as your honourable wisdomes shall thinke fittinge And your peticioners and their posterities shall ever pray etc.

CCCCLXXIV: *Parish Stipends*

Hall Papers XI, No. 501. [No date.] A certificate of such Annuall stipends and other dues as belongeth unto all the severall Paryshe Churches within the towne and Borough of Leicester.

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
To Markus Viccarage about	13	6	8
To All halловes the dues worth about	24	0	0
To Maries, to be paid by the Kinge	8	0	0
To Nicholas, about	8	0	0
To Margaretts, about	40	0	0

havinge received this informacion and seeinge the greate want of meanes to maintaine an able ministry, wee presume to propose for supplie, if the honourable houses shall thinke fitt as followeth
Out of a rent of 272*l.* per Annum due to the Bishopp of Elye for lands in Burton Lazarus in Com' Leic^r, the some of 200*l.*.

Out of the parsonage impropriate of Melton Mowbray per Annum about 180*l.* and under sequestracion for the delinquencie of Mr Hudson the some of 100*l.*

Out of Great Eastern, Bringhurst and Drayton in Com' Leic^r Impropriate, worth about 200*l.* per annum and under sequestracion for the delinquencie of Sir Lewis Watson, the some of 100*l.*

The rent of the Prebendarie of Margaretts Leicester 31*l.* per Annum and Garthrop Impropriate and under Sequestracion for the delinquencie of Sir Lewes Watson per Annum about 80*l.*

These are rents and revenues which are Cleare as wee conceive and most probable to supplie the defects of these charges and most likely for continuance which wee humbly submitt to consideracion

[See also No. 488.]

CCCCLXXV. *Petition of an ex-soldier to the Mayor etc.*

Hall Papers XI, No. 520. [No date.]

Sheweth

That your Peticioner being a ffreeman of the said Borrough and having bene a Gunner and a gunners Mate in this garrison almost ever since the first fortifying thereof during which tyme he hath sold beere sometimes having had Licenses from the maiors of the said Borrough, and the rest of the said tyme being Importuned thereunto

by many of the Cheife souldiary of the Garrison (your petitioners house having bene appointed to be the place for a Company of Guards) And your petitioner being onely once commanded by the late maior to forbear the said practice and yet afterwards upon the earnest Importunity of the Commanders and souldiers in regard of his said Office this house being Employed for a Company of guards as aforesaid did still presume to sell some beere for satisfaccion of the said officers and souldiers (although he for his own particuler had noe great desire thereunto and he not thinking of any offence to be by him committed thereby) And nowe your petitioner being Imprisoned for the doeing

Doeth therefore humbly pray that your Worshipps will be pleased to release him from his said Imprisonment (he being sory for offending Justice in the least degree and being willing to give good security never to transgresse in the like sorte againe) whereby he may have liberty to worke in his former calling for the maintenance of himselfe his wife and many small children and allsoe be enabled to avoid many Inconveniences which otherwise will befall him

And your Peticioner will ever pray etc.

They will consider of it.

CCCCLXXVI. *Petition to the Mayor etc.*

Hall Papers XI, No. 455. [No date.] * * * humbly shewing that your Peticioner was Constable in Mr Abnes ward when the Towne was taken by the Kinges party And it is well known was Imprysond And I had made my pease for lyberty then I was Employd uppon payne of death to doe service to bury the dead Releve the sentryes and other charges that I have in my bill to the Chamberlyns accounted that came to forty four shillings for which some I can receave but ten shillings for the Rest I humbly Intreat to consider of itt that I maye have itt for I did nothing but Mr Byllers that was Maior was Acquaynted with itt and after the [provider?] was oute for my goods I lost three mylch kyne in serving my office so that I am in great want so hoping you will take itt into consideration I humbly take leave

Your poore peticioner

John Turlington.

They will consider it.

CCCCCLXXVII. *Chamberlains' Account. 1644-45**Other receipts.*

Item received of Mr Edward Chamberlaine beinge the gift of Thomas Nurse deceased for the maintenance of Richard Nurse his father and the remainder after his death to the use of the poore of the towne and by the assent of the said Richard Nurse putt into the townes handes paying to the said Richard Nurse Eight pounds per Annum during his life and after to the poores use at the discretion of the Corporacion *Cli.*

[Hospitall pay very diminished, halfe peny Gowne, lampe, Communion and five penny money not accounted for.]

Chief rents and other payments.

Item paid to Mr John Beeby Bayliffe of Leicester in parte of the rents due to his Majestie out of certayne lands in the said Borough and in the Bayliffs collecton iij*l.* xijs. jd.

Fees Wages etc.

Item paied for the new mace beinge silver and gilt and weighinge [blank] ownces at [blank] the ownce xxiiij*l.* vjs. vjd.

Item paied for the Iron within the mace and a box to put ye mace in ijs.

Item paied for the tipps for the Chamberlaines staves in silver xvs. vijd.

Item paied for the makeinge graveinge and gildinge of them xvs.

Item paied for the twoe staves xijs.

Item paied for twoe Seales vizt the Common Seale of brasse and the Maiors lesser seale of silver ili. vjs.

Item paied for quarteringe of five souldiers one night by Mr Maiors appointment. iijs.

Item paied for buryinge of divers horses in and about the towne at severall tymes by Mr Maiors appointment. ixs. viijd.

Item paied to the Sackstone of S. Maryes for ringinge the bells when Mr Maior went to take his Oath at the Castle is.

Item given to the Gunsmythes that was workeinge then at the Castle by Mr Maiors appointment. ijs.

Item paied to William Smyth and divers other workemen for worke done about the granges as appears by their bill. ili. iiijs.

Item paied to severall workemen for takeinge downe the Castle

Malt Mill and for carryinge the slates and timber thereof to the Old shopp. *ili. xijs.*

Item paied for provinder for the Kinges Groomes when the Kings forces held the Towne by Mr Maiors appointment. *ijjli. viijs.* [Scratched out.]

Item paied to Mr John Angell vicar of St Nicholas for the tythe of the Pesthouse and yard *ijs.* [To be noe more paied.]

Item paied to the Towne Clerke for writeinge the Rentall after the towne was taken the former rentall beinge parte lost and the rest torne and spoiled by the Cavaliers *ijli.*

Item paied to [blank] to redeeme the towne Charters beinge seized when the Kings forces tooke the towne, by the appointment of Mr Maior *Cli.*

Item paied for 4 stickes of malt for the maimed souldiers at the hospitall when the Kings forces held the towne by Mr Maiors appointment. *xiijs. iiijd.*

Item paied for bread and salt sent to them at the same tyme *vijd.*

Item paied for three doosen of Candles for the Centryes then by Mr Maiors appointment. *viijs.*

Item paied to a Messinger for carryinge a packett of letters to Harborough which was sent from the Scottish Armie to the Parliament, by Mr Maiors appointment. *ijs. vjd.*

Item paied for twoe of the brasse measures that was taken away by the Cavaliers *ijs. iiijd.*

Item paied for the quarteringe of five Souldiers one night beinge sent to Mr Maior by the Governor and by Mr Maiors appointment. *js. viijd.*

Item paied for the Statute Seale to a Souldier by Mr Maiors appointment. [blank.]

Item paied to severall workemen for takeinge down divers houses about the Southgate and for other worke about the Same as appeares by bill. *ijjli. iijs.*

Repaires.

Item paied severall men for buryinge of fifty dead Corpses within Mr Abneys Ward, and the Newarke when the towne was taken by the Kings forces, by command of the Chiefe Commander then *xs.*

Item paied to the Centry at the Southgate for three nights charges or expences at that tyme by the like command *ili. viijs.* [Scratched out.]

Item paied to one of Prince Ruperts Guard to hire of post horse to Harbarough by the like command vs.

Item paied more to the Souldiers at the Southgate beinge upon the Guard by the like command ijs. vjd.

Item paied for three pounds of Candles for the Maine guard at that time by like command. js.

Supers allowed

S^t Maryes Easter books vjs. viijd.

Receipts DCCC—Lxxxix*li.* iiijs. vjd.

Expenses 571. 9.

Allowed 165. 6. 3.

CCCLXXVIII. *Meeting of the Twenty Four*

Hall Papers XI, No. 513. [25 August 1646.] ffor that Mr Thomas Weldon mace bearer for this Borough hath of late given some occasion of offence both to the Governor and Committee for this Garrison, and for the same have beene by them restrayned for executinge of his said Office, and that in regard there is greate detriment for want of one to supplye the said place, and whereas the said Companie havinge given him tyme to make his peace and regaine the favour of the said Governor and Committee which doth not appeare to be ffeasible Therefore the said Companie of the 24^{tie} on ffull debate of the buissnes doe hereby revoke their former Act of Choosinge the said Mr Thomas Weldon mace bearer and doe discharge him of his said Office and doe declare the said place [to be] voyd.

Mr William Mawson was this daye by the said Companie chosen [mace bearer] of this Borough to enjoye the said Office for the [torn and illegible] during the good pleasure of [the Company].

CCCLXXIX. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XI, No. 514. [11 September 1646.] Whereas there is an excepcion in the Commission ffor settinge and lettinge of landes (of the Newarke Grange with appurtenances) it is at this Hall understood and therefore ordered that the said Commissioners shall have as full power to treate lett and sett the Newarke Grange with appurtenances as they have [lett and sett] any other of the towne lands, the said excepcion notwithstanding.

CCCCLXXX. *Resistance to payment of tithes*

Hall Papers XI, No. 534. [24 October 1646.] To all those whose names are underwritten.

Whereas wee are Informed that you and everie of you doe refuse to paie your severall tythes and dues belonginge to M^r Thomas Rudyard as Impropriator and owner of the tythes and dues of the paryshe of S^t Leonards in the Borough aforesayd These are therefore accordeinge to the Ordinance of Parliament in that case made and provided to will and require you upon sight hereof, you discharge and paye all such somes and dues as are by the said M^r Rudyard legally demanded or els to make your personall appearance before us upon ffrydaye next at the towne Hall, by one of the Clocke in the afternoone, of the Borough aforesaid to shewe Cause of your Refusall otherwise wee shall proceede accordeinge to the said Ordinance. And hereof fayle not. Dated the 24th daye of October Anno domini 1646.

Dannett Abney Maior
William Billers.

Thomas Orton	Thomas Pepper
John Somefeld	ffrancis Burton
John Storie	Widdow Allitt
Jonathan Cooke	Mr John ffowlyer
M ^r Breeven	Jefferie Blisse
Widdow Worthington	William Hytchcocke.

CCCCLXXXI. *Letters relating to the Ministers stipends*

Hall Papers XI, No. 544. [10 December 1646.] Right honorable

We cannot but upon all occasions acknowledge our extraordinary obligations to your Lordship for your noble favor to this Towne and in particular for assistinge M^r Ludlam in procuringe allowance of mayntenance for supply of our Ministers here whereupon he brought to us the Order inclosed bearinge date in June last and there entred in Goldsmiths hall before any Composition thereof. And beinge therein lately interrupted by Sir Lewes Watson owner of the Parsonages of Easton and Garthrop out of which the Allowance is to be made the Mynisters havinge receyved parte of the said rents he sent the Order inclosed, demandinge the said rents to be repaid to him and expectinge by his Composition to enjoy his Parsonages cleare for

the tyme to come, We humbly request that your Lordshipp would be pleased to contynue your accustomed favor for the Confirmacion of what you formerly procured for us, wee beinge nowe provided of able mynisters who wilbe inforced to desert us, if their mayntenance fayle them And we desire your honorable assistance to Mr Pratt who will attend your Lordshipp therein on our behalfe. And this addition to your noble curtesyes shall further oblige us

My Lord

Your honors humble servants

Sir

Wee request your favor and assistance to Mr Pratt for the Contynuance of the allowance for mayntenance to our mynisters here beinge lately questioned by Sir Lewes Watson who intends to include it in the composition and to cleare his parsonages thereof. We have written to the Lord Grey about it. The inclosed Copyes will represent the case to you our Order beinge entred at Goldsmiths Hall before any composition wherein we desire you to request the assistance of Sir Arthur Hazelrige and an other freynde there whereby you shall further oblige us.

CCCCLXXXII. Letter to the Reverend Lazarus Seaman

Hall Papers XI, No. 588. [12 Dec. 1646.]

Wee retorne you hartie thanks for your love and greate paines taken to the place of your birth, and doe certifie you that wee have received the *xli* by Mr Stanley, beinge parte of Mr Joseph Parkers legacie, and accordinge to the donors intent and your direccions to our best discrecions have distributed it to 20 honest Housekeepers as maye further appeare by this note inclosed, and wee intreate your further assistance in procuringe the other *xli*. remaynder of Mr Joseph Parkers legacie which wee shall endeavour to see distributed in like manner and will accompt allso.

Sir There was allso geven by the elder brother Mr John Parker *50*l**. which was lent out ffreely and secured to 5 men accordinge to the will of the Testator. This wee thought good to certifie you by reason there is allso geiven by the same will *6*l**. to the Maior and to the Companie of the 24 and 48^{te} to make a dinner for their Court and for the full disposing of the said *50*l**. and allso 20*s*. to the towne Clarke

for his paines in and about the same which are not yet paide and therefore desire you to continue your mocion to the executors of the said Mr John Parker and Mr Joseph for the full accomplayshinge the will of the deceased And wee shall accept it as a greate Curtesie and rest.

CCCCLXXXIII. Meeting of the Justices

Hall Papers XI, No. 569. [31 December 1646.] Mr Benjamyn Gifford came before Mr Maior, Mr Wm Billers, Mr Norrice, Mr Rudyard and Mr Cradocke, they sittinge at the monethely meetinge, and tolde Mr Maior that he came to accuse him selfe, and that was that he had said that he was playd the Knav which they maye gesse by home [whom] and he thought by them all.

CCCCLXXXIV. Man accused of treasonable speech

Hall Papers XI, No. 595. [6 February 1646/7.] The examinacion of William Warde taken before Mr Dannett Abney Maior, Mr William Biller and Mr Edmund Cradock Justices touchinge certaine words they hearde Benjamine Gifford speake against the Committee and others the 6th daye of february Anno 1646.

This examinant sayth that about the last daye of December last he did here Mr Benjamine Gifford saye to one James ffoxo this examinants master that the committee and Mr Maior were knaves and rascalls and that he would prove it, and further sayth nott

William Ward.

eodem die

Anne Enser spinster affirmed the same before the maior and justices.

The mark of

×

Anne Enser.

CCCLXXXV. *Order to prepare lodgings for the King*

Hall Papers XI, No. 597. [12 February 1646/7.] Sir I shall desire you to pick out the most convenient Lodgings for his majesty if not a private howse I conceyve att the Angell he wilbe here to-morrow night all provisions that shalbe brought in wilbe paid for there lodge allwayes where the King is all and as many of the Commanders as can possible and the rest as neare as may be I desire things may be in a readiness against the other Harbinger Capt Burrowes comes which wilbe to morrow morneing earely our number is 300 horsse and as many Ryders and therefore I desire you command the Constables to have the number of bedds in every house as also which housse can receyve and that they be readie to attende against his comeinge I desire you assigne a quarter for the Kings landresse in some house as neare the Court as may be Thus desiring pardon for my boldnes being in haste

your humble servant

Robert Bradford.

12 febr. 1646.

Harb.

There may be 16 horsses at the least readie by to morrow night.

CCCLXXXVI. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XI, No. 572. [17 December 1646.] It is at this Common Hall ordered and agreed that all who live in this [towne] and use any trade or ffacultie within the said Borough and fee [and are] called to be of the said Corporacion and shall refuse to become a ffreeman of the same be taxed Double to all taxes made within this Borough in regard they do [not] beare office or doe any service in the Corporacion as well these that be [*illegible*] as any other, and further that in case any shall refuse to become [a free man] of this Corporacion which useth any Chapmanrie abroad, beinge thereunto called notice shall be sent to all places of his or theire dealinges to give notice not to have any benefitt as ffreeman of this Corporacion.

CCCLXXXVII. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XI, No. 586. [11 Januarie 1646/7.] It is at this Hall ordered and agreed that there be a peticion drawne and sent to the Committee ffor the Irishe taxes ffor releife and takinge of the said Irishe taxes which is for this Towne in regarde of the povertie of the same.

It is ordered and agreed that Mr Ludlam and one of the Chamberlins be desired to goe to his excellencie Sir Thomas ffairfax about the removeall of the souldiers in this towne.

CCCLXXXVIII. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XI, No. 585 (back). [February 1646/7.] It is allsoe at this Hall ordered that the Tenn pounds lately geven to the Schoole-masters by a Common Hall shalbe continued to the newe head Schoolemaster duringe the Townes goode pleasure: the *5*l.** to be paid at lady daye next and that the Chamberlins shall paie to the said head Schoolemaster what the Commissioners shall thinke convenient in lewe of his Charges and bringinge his ffamilie and goodes from Essex to this towne.

The Commissioners desire that Mr Maior would speak with the head Schoolemster and knowe what will give him Content ffor his charges in cominge to this Towne, and accordinglye to allowe him what it shall appeare the wholle charge of the carriage comes to.

CCCLXXXIX. *Petition to the House of Commons*

Hall Papers XI, No. 464. [No date.] To the Right Honorable the Lords and Commons assembled in Parliament The humble petition of the Maior and Aldermen of Leicester on the behalfe of the poore Inhabitants therin and the places adjacent within the fortifications thereof

humblly sheweth

That accordinge to speciall Order and directions of his Excellency Sir Thomas ffairfax for the necessary fortification and preservation of this important place and garrison above one Hundred and Twenty dwellinge howses of poore men have beene pulled downe and much ground digged up and spoyled in and about the said workes whereby above one hundred and Twenty familyes who heretofore lived and maynteyned themselves in the said howses are now destitute and unprovided of their habitacions and exposed to much hardshipp and miserie and the owners of the said howses and grounds are much impoverished and weakned in their estates and disabled to maintaine themselves and become chardgable to the places where they live The burthen whereof growes so great that your peticioners are not able to beare the same beinge extraordinarily plundred and wasted by the Kinges forces at the takinge of this Towne and many poore widdowes whose husbands were slayne at the same tyme and they thereby disabled to subsist and mayntayne themselves and their poor famylies are very chardgable to your peticioners to provide for and keepe.

They therefore humbly petition your Honorable commiseration of soe many poore and distressed familyes and persons And that your

Honors would be pleased to graunt and order such fines and Compo-sitions as are or shalbe made with the delinquents of Ashby Da la Zouch (whoe have cheifly occasioned these great losses and charges) accordinge to the late Articles upon the demolishinge thereof may be assigned and appointed for their necessary supply and subsistance; or that some other course may be taken for the petitioners ease and releife therein as your honerable and grave wisdomes shall seeme fittinge.

And they shall ever pray etc.

CCCCXC. Petition of the Company of Cordwainers

Hall Papers XI, No. 523. [No date.]

The peticion of the Steward and wardens of the Companie of Cord-wayners on the behalfe of the whole Companie.

Humbly sheweth

That your peticioners are all ffreemen of this Corperacion and are of the fellowshippe and Companie of Cordwayners. But nowe please your worshipps there are within this Corperacion of Coblers 22^{te} which are noe ffreemen of this Corperacion, and paie little or noe taxes or dueties in the same, Neverthelesse they keepe open shopps and make wares, take apprentices and covenant with them to teach them the trade of a Shoomaker or Cordwayner, and doe also worke in back houses and places and there make wares contrarie to the Statute by puttinge in leather made of horse hides and by ill workmanshippe, to the damage of his Majesty's good subjects and to the great prejudice and impoverishinge of your peticioners and contrarie to the good lawes of this land and customes of this Ancient and Honorable Corperacion, and our sayd Ordinall; All which wee hold ourselves bound to main-taine to our best skill and Knowledge, And that they pretend libertie in Offendinge both against the good and Ancient customes of this Corperacion and our Ordinall by an Order heretofore made at a Common Hall.

CCCCXCI. Petition of two Cordwainers to Common Hall

Hall Papers XI, No. 483. [No date.]

The humble peticion of Robert Carre and John Hall of the said Borrough Cordwainers

Sheweth

That your Peticioners were brought up as Apprentices accordinge to the law in the trade of a Shoomaker and have each of them wrought as a servant in that trade within this Towne for the space of twelve yeares and upwards, and since that tyme of their service they have taken shopps and used the occupacion of mending, altering and selling old bootes and shooes, a trade, though meane, yet allowed of in London, and other Citties or Borroughs's, as being, in its kind, conducible to the publique good, especially for the Common souldiers, and poore people, and by their labours in the said trade your peticoners have been able to mainteyne themselves and their familyes, though one of them hath a greate chardge of children and the other a very weake and infirme wife, they have alsoe thereby beene enabled to contribute to publique taxes and chardges of the Towne, and so beare their owne armes for the defence thereof and greivously suffered, one of them in his bed, being lamed, and both in the small states they had at the late takinge of the same, yet nevertheles the Corporacion of Shoomakers within this Borrough, intending your peticoners ruine, have much disturbed them in their lawfull and free use of their trade and do threaten to shut downe their shop windowes though they know that your Worshipps were pleased to graunt licence unto your peticoners to work in their saide trade, not transgressing the ordinance of the said Shoomakers Corporacion which your perticioners have duely observed.

Now therefore may it please you for prevention of further trouble to graunt to your peticoners their freedome in this Borrough they havinge for long served here as aforesaid, or at least to graunt them an order for their licence to worke accordinge to the Shoomakers ordinance and the rather for that it will prove noe prejudice to the publique in regard the Shoomakers, not being able to make ware to serve the Towne, doe send for the same from remote parts, which is contrary to the law, and against the publique good. And your peticoners will dayly pray etc.

Not allowed.

[Hall Papers XI, 370 and 560, petitions of John Hall.

Hall Papers XII, 518, petition of Robert Carr. Stated he worked as "Translator" for 18 years without molestation until after the storming of the town.]

CCCCXCII. *Petition of Edward Palmer*

Hall Papers XI, No. 678. [No date.]

Sheweth

That the Peticioner beinge heretofore duly elected and chosen into the Office and place which hee lately executed in this Borough with all faithfullnes to the best of his power and abilitie of late by meanes of certaine false and slanderous informacion (as he hopes of the deposicions taken by vertue of an Order of the Lords and Commons for Sequestracions on the Peticioners behalfe might be here produced he hath allready in some good measure proved) for a certaine tyme laid under the heavie sensure and sentence of the Committee and Governor, of beinge expelled the towne, and was allsoe expelled accordingly with other hard imposicions and pressures, to his greate disgrace losse and detriment dureinge which tyme his Office was supplied by a faithfull and honest man yet the Peticioner by some strange courses and contrivances contrary as hee humbly conceaves to the intent and true meaninge of any your Charter or Charters or of any Order or Ordinance of Parliament was deprived of his said Office and is still kept out of the same although hee beleeves there neither is nor anything can justly bee proved against him that hath disabled or of right can disable him from the enjoyment thereof (if hee might here bee admitted to a faire hearinge of the wholle proceedings therein)

Most humbly therefor hee prayes that if the Peticioner shalbe able to satisfie this societie that the said office of right belongeth to the Peticioner and to noe other and that there is nothinge charged against him that can justly disable him from executeinge the same, that thereupon hee may be restored to his just imployment therein (as in all right and equitie and good conscience hee humbly conceaves hee ought to bee).

And the Peticioner etc.

Read twice but thought fitt to doe nothinge.

CCCCXCIII. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1645-46*

Other rents for lands and tenements and possessions belonginge to the late Colledge of the blessed ladye St Marie the virgine over against the Castle of Leicester and for part of the Lammas tythes mortuaries and Easter dues, and heretofore amongst other things demised to Mr Holt by lease expired and nowe in the possession of

the maior Bayliffe and Burgesses of Leicester in fee form as followeth etc.

Towne and Manor of Leicester.

Imprimis received of the assignes of Mr James Ellis and others for two messages or tenements and one horse mill called a malt mill in the Swynes markett in Leicester for one whole yeares rent ended at Michaellmas 1646. The particulars whereof doe allso appeare in and by the said rentall for the same yeare the sume of iiiij*l*. iijs. iiijd.

New rents parcell of the Towne Wall etc.

[The xli. generally received from His Majesty not received this year or last.]

Other receipts.

Item received of Mr Haynes executors which he gave by his will towards the bringinge downe his books he gave to our lybrarye iiiij*l*.

Chief rents and other payments.

[Payment to the Bayliffe for rent to the King scratched out.]

Fees wages etc.

Item for a dorinx carpett for the Towne Hall table xiijs. viijd.

Item paied for sixe turkye worke cushions i*l*. vijs.

Item paied for 19*l*. and a halfe of feathers to stufte them xiijs.

Item paied for pavinge parte of the street in the North gate where the Bull worke was as appears by bill xjs. vd.

Wine given by the towne this yeare.

[There was no gift to Lord Huntingdon but gifts to Lord Gray and Sir Arthur Hazlerigg.]

Item paied for one pottle of sack one pottle of Clarett and one *l*. of hard sugar given to Mr Peter Temple vjs. viiid.

Item paied for two gallons of sack, two gallons of Clarett two gallons of white one pinte of Sack and one suger loafe waieinge 6*l*. which was given to Right Honorable the Earle of Pembroke and the rest of the Commissioners of Parliament when they went with propositions to the Kinge ij*l*. iiijs. id.

[Long list of gifts to preachers of God's word.]

Item paied for one quarte of sack given to Mr Borrowes preacher of Gods word is. vjd.

[Long list of supers allowed.]

The herbage of St Maries Church yarde *ili.*

St Maries Easter Booke vis. viijd.

Charges	881.	15.	6.	ob.	q.
Discharge	602.	7.	1.		
Remained	279.	8.	5.	ob.	q.
Supers		8.	18.	6.	ob.
Remaineth due	180.	14.	11.		
Allowed M ^r Banes	10.	0.	0.		
So remaineth	170.	14.	11.		

[“Hospittale pay” drops out.]

CCCCXCIV. *Petition concerning enclosure of land at Bushby*

Hall Papers XI, No. 615. [26 March 1647.]

The humble desiers of the Inhabitants of Bushbie to the right worshipfull M^r Maior and the Aldermen of the Borough of Leicester and their Commissioners.

ffirst they desire the Inclosure may contynue and that they maie have Conveyances of Leicester ground lyinge in their severall plotts.

Secondly that you wilbe pleased to accept of Conveyances of Bushby ground lyinge in Leicester plott laid out for them in full satisfaccion of your ground.

Thirdly that wee maie have three weekes tyme to peruse the particulers as they were taken up by the surveyor before the inclosure, that they maie bee compared to the ground in Leicester plott that itt may appeare they are equall in quantity of ground.

Geo. Watson
Whalley White
John Davenport
W. Last.

(Commissioners.)

CCCCXCV. *Meeting of the Commissioners*

Hall Papers XI, No. 620. [1 March 1646/7.] It is att this meetinge ordered and agreed that M^r Thomas Blunt, Daniell Deaken and Thomas Somerfield Chamberlin be elected and chosen to goe to Bushby and to discharge the Tenant of this Towne land there, ffor meddlinge any further with the land there till he hath further order ffrom the Commissioners, and allso to acquaint the land holders there that if they will not speedylye come to take order with the Commissioners concerninge that land, they will enter upon their land as before any inclosure, and that the Towne Clerke doe goe alonge with them.

Memorandum. The same daye above written accordinge to this order the above said Mr Thomas Blunt and all others mencioned in the said Order went to Bushbye and discharged the tennant accordingly, and allso all other the ffreeholders there and acquainted them with the Contents thereof And they promised upon Thursdaye next to acquaint Mr Maior and the Commissioners what daye they would meeete.

CCCCXCVI. *Resolution restricting competition*

Hall Paper XI, No. 692 (back). [5 July 1647.] It is ordered and agreed by all the Companie that if any master of the said occupacion or any of his or theire servants, shall at any time call or entice any Chapman or Customer out of, or from, any other man's shopp, or stall in the markett, that then everie such master or servant shall forfeite for everie such offence 2s.

CCCCXCVII. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XI, No. 690. [12 July 1647.] Att this Common Hall it is ffully agreed by a generall Consent of all present that there shalbe a Taxe made upon the Inhabitants within this towne ffor the paiement of the quarters of the Souldiers nowe in Towne and that the same be speedily collected.

CCCCXCVIII. *Meeting of Auditors*

Hall Papers XI, No. 703. [1 September 1647.] Att a meetinge of the Auditors hereafter named

Mr Dannett Abney Maior
Mr William Billers
Mr William Warde
Robert Blunt.

Att this meetinge William ffrancke late Chamberlin did produce an Accompt ffor the old Hospitall which is nowe upon the ffyle. Whereupon there is due to him as appeares by the said Accompt 72. 18. 10. which is to be allowed him upon the foote of his Accompt.

Memorandum that all the ffee ffarme rents due to Auditor Daunton ffor 4 yeares ended at March 1646 be putt to Chamberlin ffranck's Accompt.

[Summary

Expend.	352.	7.	10.
	1.	13.	4.
	350.	14.	6.
Rec.	277.	15.	8.]

CCCCXCIX. *Assessors for tax for the Army and Ireland*

Hall Papers XI, No. 699. [13 September 1647.] Assessors to assesse the 6 months ffor the [illegible] ffor taxe for the Army and Ireland etc. nominated as ffolloweth viz.

Mr Dannett Abney Maior	{ Mr Wanley Robert Eyrice
Mr William Billers	{ Edward Hunt William Tompson
Mr Daniell Murfyn	{ Mr John Somerfeild Thomas Henshawe
Mr Norrice, Northgate and Senvey gate	{ Mr John Norrice and John Hynde Jonathan Cooke John Newbould

Mr William Stanley and Mr William Pattener, Mr James Ludlam.

Mr Thomas Rudyard, Mr Edward Billers, Mr John Pace.

Mr Richard Ludlam and Mr Alexander Baker, Mr Richard Barnes.

Mr William Warde Mr Robert Blunt and Roger Warde.

ffor Bishopps ffee the said Mr Warde, Richard Pallmer Thomas Manninge Mr Craddocke Mr Géorge Pallmer, Henry Peale.

D. *Meeting of the Twenty Four*

Hall Papers XI, No. 716. [24 September 1647.] It is att this meetinge agreed that Mr [illegible] Dent shall be discharged of all the rents due to the towne syncce the works made about the Towne and his Howses plucked downe, till Michallmas last, and that he shall paie one yeares att Michallmas next as appeares by the Rentall to be due and soe to Continue his rent halfe yearly as fformly.

It is att this meetinge allsoe agreed that William Brewen shalbe discharged of the rent due to the Towne unto Michallmas next, and that he shall paie his rent duely for the tyme to come halfe yearly which he doth agree to.

It is all so agreed that Robert Brewen shalbee Bridwell Keeper for the towne ffor one yeare ffrom Michallmas next, and that he shalbe paied by the Chamberlins of the Town 20th nobles ffor that yeares service halfe yearly provided he behaves himselfe honestly in the said Office.

DI. *Orders and rules for the Grammar School*

Hall Papers XII, No. 31. [22 Nov. 1647.] Orders, Rules and observacions, for the Schoolemaster and Schollers of the free Grammer Schoole of the sayd Borrough made, ordered and agreed upon, by Thomas Blunt Esqr Maior of the sayd Borrough, Job Grey Esqr and John Angell Lecturer, Masters and Visitors of the sayd Schoole, the 22nd daye of November Anno 1647.

1. *Imprimis* that ye Schollers of the sayd Schoole shall everie 18th daye of december breake up Schoole and have tyme of recreacion untill the Mundaye after the sixth daye of Januarie followinge commenly called twelfth daye as beinge the most convenient season of the yeaire, the sayd Schollers duringe all the sayd time decently and orderly behavinge themselves, And then duely to repaire to Schoole againe.

2. *Item* that the Schollers shall everie frydaie before Easter and Whitsondaye have time of recreacion untill the Mundaye Sevenight after, they decently and orderly behavinge themselves.

3. *Item* that the Schollers have the second tuesday in everie month allowed them for recreacion, accordinge to Ordinance of Parliament.

4. *Item* that the Schollers shall playe the afternoone the Judges come into Towne everie Assizes, and two dayes after.

5. *Item* that the Schollers shall playe, (if the Master thinke good) either of his owne mynde, or by request, upon Thursday in the afternoone, and none other daye but by order.

6. *Item* that the Schollers shall playe everie Saterdaye in thafternoone or at 3 of the clock which the master thinks convenient.

7. *Item* that the Schollers shall playe everie after noone of the 4 usuall faire dayes, vicz. upon the 8th daye of december, commonly called the Concepcion of Marie, the first daye of Maye, the 24th daye of June, and the 29th daye of September.

8. *Item* that the Schollers shall playe the daye before the potacion and the daye after.

9. *Item* that the Schollers from time to time, shall duly and orderly come to Schoole everie morninge in Sumer at 6 of the clock, and in winter at 7 and theire staye till 11 and in thafternoone at one of the clock and there remayne till 5 (except excepted).

10. *Item* that all the Schollers there at all tymes shall be obedient

to, and keepe all the Statutes and Rules att the foundacion of the Schoole, and the Orders and rules abovesaid, And not expect nor have any other dayes of recreacion upon paine of expulsion the Schoole.

II. *Item* that the Orders and rules shall remayne and be observed till further order of the Masters and Visitors.

Thomas Blunt Maior
Job. Grey
John Angell.

DII. *Meeting of the Commissioners*

Hall Papers XII, No. 32. [26 Nov. 1647.] Att this meetinge Mr Maior hath appointed that the leather shalbe sealed and searched at the Towne Hall, till a more Convenient place be appointed, and in no other place, and not to be searched or sealed without three of the searchers and sealers which are sworne.

DIII. *Company of Tailors authorise the work of a "botcher"*

Hall Papers XII, No. 53. [9 Dec. 1647.] An agreement betweene the Steward and wardens of the Companie of Taylors within the said Borough And William Sumner Senior made and agreed upon the daye and yeare abovesayd before Mr Thomas Blunt Maior.

Imprimis the sayd Steward and wardens are contented, that the sayd William Sumner, during pleasure, maye worke within the sayd Borrough, as a botcher, not cuttinge out or makinge any new worke, or any garments which are turned, but onely to mende olde Clothes, not to preiudice theire Ordinall nor to take any to worke with him.

[Hall Papers XI, 449. [1647.] Petition of Willian Sumner Taylor for freedom. His house was pulled down, his fruit trees ruined, his son was killed and most of his goods were plundered at the taking of the towne "whereof your peticioners wife hath beeene distracted ever since."]

DIV. *Meeting of the Twenty Four*

Hall Papers XII, No. 63. [7 Jan. 1647/8.] Att this meetinge it is agreed that soe much of the drapery Chamber, as shalbe, thought meete by the Commissioners or any foure of them upon theire vew, shalbe made fitt and Convenient for a leather Hall.

DV. Meeting of the Twenty Four

Hall Papers XII, No. 66. [28 Jan. 1647/8.] Att this meetinge it is agreed that Robert Eyrick late Chamberlyne, shalbe sued for the Twentie five pounds he receaved of Sir Thomas Whites, M^r Hericks and M^r Parkers money.

Att this meetinge M^r Thomas Weldon promised to paye in the xli. he had of M^r Hericks money or to putt in such sufficient securitie as the Maior and Aldermen shall thinke fitt Att or before the 25th daye of March next, otherwise the bond to be putt in suite.

[Two other entries of similar character.]

DVI. Mr Herick's gift of 5li. spent on bread for the poor

Hall Papers XII, No. 78. [3 Feb. 1647/8.] Memorandum that all the bread for everie parishe was brought to the Guild Hall and wayed, and then paid for by the macebearer and the overseers had to distribute according to the will.

DVII. Relief for those who have billeted soldiers

Hall Papers XII, No. 99. [11 Feb. 1647/8.] Common Hall * * it is ordered and agreed that it be fully lefte to the Commissioners to consider of a waye to ease those that have and doe receave the Souldiers over and above the ordinarie allowance and what to be allowed them, and to be paid out of the Towne Stocke.

Item it is also ordered that all that have receaved any money upon any taxes made and was collected synce the Towne was taken, shall give an accompte to M^r Maior and Commissioners upon two dayes notice by M^r Maior and the same to be reported att the next Hall.

Hall Papers XII, No. 100. [11 Feb. 1647/8.] Meeting of the Commissioners. It is ordered and agreed that everie one that have receaved and billeted any Souldiers shalbe allowed for everie horse and man kept viij nights xijd. and to be paid out of the Towne Chamber.

DVIII. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XII, No. 102. [25 Feb. 1647/8.] It is ordered and agreed that the Maior for the time beinge shall have power to send for all such Chamberlins as shalbe indebted unto the Corporacion and if they upon accompte be found in arreare and doe not forth with paie all such monies as shalbe so due to the Corporacion and that then the said Maior is desired by this Hall to committ them till they paye the same. And that the Maior and Commissioners shall have power to awditt the Chamberlins accompts in arreare, and to allowe both them and other former Chamberlins what they shall thinke fittinge.

* * * it is ordered and agreed, that whereas there hath usually beene kept in this Borrough but two Sessions in the yeare, and in regard that for the time to come theire maye be yearly kept three Sessions at the least, they doe hereby allowe and give to the Maior towards his charges att the three Sessions $4\text{l}i.$ to be paid him by the Chamberlins of the Towne, and soe from tyme to tyme yearly for everie Session $1\text{l}i. 6\text{s}. 8\text{d}.$ provided he keepe 3 Sessions in the yeare at the least and if he keepe but 2 Sessions in the yeare, then the Maior to have no allowance at all.

DIX. *Meeting of the Commissioners*

Hall Papers XII, No. 114. [14? March 1647/8.] Att this meetinge it is agreed and concluded by all present that Thomas Dannett Esqr shall have all these tythes and viceriall tenthes herbages and duties, of all the grounds in his own occupacion, belonginge to Dannetts Hall, Welch Hall, and Marie Milne and the Holmes to the milne belonginge (except Easter duties and personall offerings) for 21 yeares from Michallmas next for $75\text{l}i.$ fyne, to be paid in manner and forme following vicz $40\text{l}i.$ att maye daye next and $35\text{l}i.$ the 12th of November next and att the yearly rent of $5\text{l}i.$

DX. *Meeting of Assessors of tax for the Army and Ireland*

Hall Papers XII, No. 105. [16 March 1647/8.] Att a meetinge It is agreed that Mr John Berkhead and Mr John Cley shalbe collectors for the 3 months taxe for the Armeys under his excellencie Sir Thomas Fairfax and for the releiffe of Ireland.

DXI. *Meeting of the Twenty Four*

Hall Papers XII, No. 23. [? 1647/8.] Att this meetinge it is fully agreed by all present, (that in regard the greate house called the lords place, with thappurtenencies in Leicester is offered to be sould) that the Corporacion shall send to treate with Mr Sherard and his wife, the relict of Mr Fowlney, and to buy it for the use of the Corporacion, and that the money be paid out of the Chamber of the Towne as they shall be advised by Counsell.

Att this meetinge it is fully agreed, that the Commissioners of Exsize shall paie for the rent for theire usinge of Gainsborrowe Chamber, till Michallmas last onely the some of repaires as have beene disburstred about it syncе theire makinge use of it, and all to paie from thence, five and twentie shillings a quarter soe longe as the Maior for the time beinge shall thinke meete, the first paiement to begine at St Thomas daye next, and they to use such parte of it as the Maior shall thinke fittinge, and the money to be payd to the Chamberlins of this Corporacion.

DXII. *Petition of Richard Shawe, trunkmaker*

Hall Papers XII, No. 88. [No date.] Sheweth that your peticioner served as an apprentice 7 yeares to a trunkmaker in the Towne of Nottingham.

That in respect his friends live neare to this Corporacion and for that there is none of the same trade in this Towne he is the more desirous to settle here, the which he cannot do without the freedom thereof. And therefore humbly prayes that your Worshipps * * * will be pleased to grante him his freedom.

Granted payeing 20th nobles at or before Ladye daye next, otherwise not to have any benefitt of the said vote.

DXIII. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1646-47**Other receipts.*

[A number of large fynes paid for entry into certain lands.]

Item received of Mr Tovey Minester of Lutterworth in parte of Mr Elkingtons money, lent to Lutterworth vij*li.* xiiijs.

Item received of the executors of Mr Thomas Hayne accordinge to his last will for the puttinge of 5 youthes apprentices (dissended of his father Robert Hayne) and to be putt apprentice in London Leicester or Nottingham the sume of LI*li.*

Rents cheife rents and fees, payd out for the lands and tenements which the Maior Bayliffe and Burgesses of Leicester hold in fee fanne for ever and are hereafter mencioned and expressed as followeth vizi.

Imprimis paied to Mr Auditor Daunton and Mr [blank] the Receiver for five yeares rent at 3*l.* 12*s.* 2*d.* per annum of ye lands and tenements belonging to ye hospitall of St John Baptist and Leonard in or neare the said Borough of Leicester in Mr Harvey and Mr Tathams lease in Countesthorpe Hungerton, Siston mills and Siston, the White horse in Leicester in the Galtrye Gate there, due and ended at the feast of St Michaell Tharchangell Anno Domini 1647 the sume of CLvij*l.* os. xd.

Item paied to the sayd Auditor and Receiver for the lands and tenements belonginge to the late Guyld called St Margaretes Guild in Leicester Towne obiit lands and the viccars closes, late in Arthur Tathams Collecion, for five whole yeares rent, (att 42*l.* 18*s.* 1*d.* per Annum) due and ended at the feast of St Michaell Tharchangell Anno Domini 1647 the sume of CCxiiij*l.* xs. vd.

Item paied to the sayd Auditor and Receiver, for the lands and tenements late parcell of the possessions of the late Guild called Corpus Christi Guild in Leicester for five whole yeares rent (at 14*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* per annum) due and ended at the feast of St Michaell Tharchangell Anno Domini 1647 the sume of Lxxiij*l.* ijs. vjd.

Item paied to the sayd Auditor and Receiver for ye lands and tenements cheife rents and lamas tythes parcell of the possessions of the late Colledge of the blessed Virgine Marie over against the Castle of Leicester for five whole yeares rent, (at 20*l.* 8*s.* 11*d.* per annum), due and ended at the feast of St Michaell the Archangell Anno Domini 1647 the sume of Cij*l.* iiijs. vijd.

Item paied to the sayd Auditor and Receiver, for certaine lands tenements and houses within the Newarke of Leicester, for five whole yeares rent, att 3*l.* 16*s.* 1*d.* per annum, due and ended att the feast of St Michaell the Archangell Anno Domini 1647 the sume of xix*l.* os. vd.

Item paied then to the sayd Auditor in full for Auditors fees debenters and Acquittances for the five yeares, ended at Michaellmas Anno 1647 the sume of xij*l.* xviijs. iiijd.

Chief Rents and other rents payde out this yeare as followeth vizi.

Imprimis payd to the Bayliffe of Leicester for foure yeares cheife rents due to him, for the Sheeppens and other Colleccions ended at the feast of St Michaell Tharchangell Anno Domini 1646 the sume of xxxvij*l.* xijs. vd.

Item payd to the Bayliffe of Leicester the rent of the Sheeppens

in Leicestre aforesayd and due to the Kings Majestie per annum iiiij*l.*

Item payd to the sayd Bayliffe for certaine lands and tenements which the Towne hold in fee farme, and were heretofore demised to one William Singleton for tearme of yeares expired, and parcell of the Towne and Mannor of Leicester, and parte of the charge of the Bayliffe then per annum due att Michaelmas 1647 ij*l.* xijs. vd. ob.

Fees Wages etc.

Item paied to Mr Blunt nowe Maior for the castinge downe the works at Galtry gate Centrie, as appeares by his note i*l.* ijs. iiijd.

Item paied for bread, beare when Mr Maior and others was at soretinge the writings in the Charter House and for pack thrid to tye the writings together is. vijd.

Item paied to Richard Whittle for two greate Chests to laye the Charters and other evidences in ij*l.*

Item paied to George Ludlam for Candles for the Centries when Sir Thomas Fairfax was last in the Towne iiijs. iiid.

Item paied for watchinge the dragooneers horses in the new parke when they came to guard the Magazeene by Mr Maiors appointment. i*l.* iiijs.

Item paied to Bartholomew Hunt for horse hire for Chamberlain Clarke to goe to Nottingham, when the Kinge came theither, as he went to Holmbye vs.

Item paied for horse hire and charges, when Mr Ludlam and Chamberlain Clarke went to Bedford, to the Generall for remoove of the Souldiers i*l.* xviijs. ijd.

Item paied to Henry Cotes for his horse for Mr Aston to goe to Northton to the Generall, with a letter, for remoove of souldiers vs.

Item paied to Vincent Brodies, for guydinge lame souldiers out of towne, when the Generall was here js.

Item paied to the Constable of Mr Maiors warde, for a taxe, for the Southfeilds, when the souldiers guarded the Magazeene i*l.*

Item paied to Samuell Robinson Constable of Mr Maiors warde, for a taxe upon the Southfeilds for Sir Thomas Fairfaxe Armey ij*l.*

Wine etc.

Item paied for 2 gallons of Canarie and 2 gallons of burnt clarett given to Maior Generall Skyppon as appeares by bill. i*l.* is. iiijd.

Item paied for a pottle of sacke, and a pottle of Clarett and Suger given to Collonell Hewson vs. vijd.

Item paid for a gallon of sack given to 2 ministers that preached when the Kinge laye in Towne as he went to Holmeby vis.

Item paied for wine and suger given to the Right Honorable the Earle of Stanfورد and to 2 members of the house of Comons when they went into Scotland *ili. xjs. ijd.*

Item paied for wyne and suger given to the Right Honorable the Earle of Pembroke and the Commissioners when they went to his Majestie at Newe Castle *ili. ixjs. vjd.*

Item paied for a bankete given to his Ecellencie Sir Thomas Fairfax and to his lady *vjli. xvjs. vjd.*

Item paied for 4 gallons and a pottle of sacke one gallon of white wine, 6 bottles of white wine, and suger and Tobacco given to the right honorable the Earle of Kent and his Countesse *ijli. ijs. jd.*

[Charges	1171.	03.	6. q.
discharge	636.	16.	9. ob.
Supers	46.	19.	6.
So remains	487.	07.	8. ob. q.
allowed	95.	00.	9.
to newe Chamb:	200.	0.	9.
Remains	142.	06.	11. ob. q.]

DXIV. Subscriptions for addition to Schoolmaster's salary

Hall Papers XII, No. 111. [27 March 1648.] A particuler howe the voluntarie addicion to the Head Schoole Master, onely for three yeares, from Ladye daye last (by consent of the Maior and Justices) is raysed over and above his stipend of *32li.* per Annum towards the continuance of him here March 27. Anno Domini 1647.

[Long list of subscriptions, amounting to £18. 8s. 4d.]

June 27 Anno 1648 Coram Mr Maior et Aldermen

Memorandum. Mr William Warde receaved for one quarter 33. 14. 7.

And paid to Mr Griffeth but *32. 10. 0.*

Soe rests in his hands still *xxiiij. vijd.*

Mr Samuel Wanley receaved for the 3 other quarters of this yeare 9. 13. 9.

And paid to Mr Griffeth but *7. 10. 0.*

Soe rests in his hands still *xliijs. ixjd.*

Total receaved for this yeare 13. 8. 4.

Whereof paid but *xli.*

Soe remaynes in theire hands 3. 8. 4.

Memorandum. Mr Ed: Bikers is desired to collect it for this yeare Anno 1648.

DXV. *The "passing of the Seale"*

Hall Papers XII, No. 104. [30 March 1648.] A meetinge of the Companie of xxiiij^{tie} and xxiiij^{tie} of the 48^{tie} for the passinge of the Seale March 30. Anno 1648.

DXVI. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XII, No. 79. [25 Feb. 1647/8.] Att this Comon Hall it is agreed and ordered by all present that whereas there hath beene usually kept in this Borough but two Sessions in the yeare, and thereby offendors were longe before they came to tryall or punishment That from henceforth there shall everie yeare be kept fore general Sessions of the peace for the sayd Borrough att the usuall times if possible or three att the least and that everie Maior for the time beinge shalbe allowed out of the Chamber of the Towne for everie Session dinner the sume of xxvjs. viijd. provided he keepe three sessions in the year at the least, and if he keepe but twoe sessions then the Maior to have no allowance at all.

read and ordered to the entred
into the booke of Orders att
a Common Hall April 4th 1648.

DXVII. *Meeting of the Commissioners*

Hall Papers XII, No. 120. [7 April 1648.] Att this meetinge it is also agreed that Mr Richard Ludlam Mr Edmund Cradock Mr Dannet Mr John Fowlyer John Hynde Robert Cotes and Richard Pallmer be requested to sell all the buildings in the farther Court of the great House called the [Great] House (as shalbe thought meete) for the best advantage of the Corporacion.

DXVIII. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XII, No. 137. [28 April 1648.] Att this meetinge it is aliso agreed, that in regarde Roberte Eyricke doth proteste that * * parte of the 25*li.* he received for the Corporacion was taken awaye in the same money when the Towne was taken, it is therefore agreed that the sayd Robert Eyriche shall paie onely 5*li.* in full of all the 25*li.*

DIXIX. Meeting of the Commissioners

Hall Papers XII, No. 144. [28 April 1648.] Att this meetinge it is agreed and concluded by all present that Wallter Rudinge Junior Esqr shall have all those tythes and viceriall tenths herbages and duties of all the grounds in his occupacion or his fathers freehold belonging to West Cotes (except Easter duties and personall offerings and the Closse called Cowe Closse and the grounds excepted in the last lease) for 21 yeares from Michallmas next, for $70*l*. fyne * * and five pounds rent per annum.$

DXXX. Order to Constables concerning "delinquents"

Hall Papers XII, No. 162. [5 June 1648.] Whereas it hath beene made appeare att a Common Hall this present Mundaye by the honorable Committee of this Towne and Countie the eminent danger both this Corporacion and Countie is in, by the greate number of evell affected delinquents assembled together in divers places adiacent; for the speedy suppressinge whereof, and for the preservacion of our selves, and for preventinge the Newarke or any other parte of this Corporacion from Garrissoninge These are to require you ymedately upon sight hereof to desire all able and sufficient persons within your warde, to appeare to morrowe morninge by Nine of the Clock att ye beate of the drume to theire severall Coullers, with such armes as they have, And soe to goe to the Horse faire to a generall Randesvouze there to shewe theire reddines for the preservinge both of themselves and frends against the publique enimie.

Tho. Blunt Maior.

DXXI. Meeting of the Commissioners

Hall Papers XII, No. 175. [9 June 1648.] Memorandum the newe Comon Seale for this Borough was then weighed in the presence of Mr Maior and divers of the Aldermen and Commissioners and the weight of it was sixe ounzes and three quarters Troye.

And the newe parte of the mace then added to it, weighed, foure ounzes Troye.

DXXII. *Letter to Mayor of Lincoln*

Hall Papers XII, No. 179. [1 July 1648.] I am informed this daye by letter that you have an unexpected partie of souldiers come to your Cittie of Lincolne which doth cause a great feare amongst us at Leicester I doe desire to heare from you under your hand in what condicion you are in (I should be unwilling to heare or know you in danger and not to endeavour to be a member thereof) and therefore desire ye truth to be related Thus not doubting of your reddines herein uppon promise of ye like upon request in hast I remayne

your loveing freind
T. B.

Leicester July ye 1st 1648.

DXXIII. *Order relating to the cleansing of streets*

Hall Papers XII, No. 300. [Nov. 1648.] Theise are to give notice and warninge and to require all and every freeholder, householder, Shopkeeper and Inhabitant within this Borough of Leicester forthwith to sweepe and clelse the streets belonging to them, And also uppon every Saturday night before Six of the Clocke in the Eveninge of the same day to sweepe make Cleane and Clense as well that parte of the street, which is betweene his house or shopp or other Tenement Curtilage Garden Orchard or Backside and the Comon Chennell or Gutter of the same, as also the same Chennell or Gutter. And all the Dust Dust Filth puddle dunge and other matter whatsoever to carry away or cause to be carried away out of the same street in such sort as the same may not annoy neither the same street nor any other street within the same Borough or the precincts thereof uppon payne that every one offendinge in any poynt against this Ordinance to forfeit for every offence Twelve pence.

DXXIV. *Soldiers quartered in Leicester*

Hall Papers XII, No. 297. [6 November 1648.] Memorandum Mr Ralph Myllard Quartermaster to the Trayne under his Excelencie the Lord Fairfax, desires to quarter in this Borrough 27 Horse and men one night being of Coll. Oakelys dragoones beinge on Convoye for his waggons.

November 6th 1648.

Memorandum that I William Hext Leifetennant to Capt. Barrington his troope of dragoones in Coll Oakelyes regiment did quarter in Leicester for one night twentie seaven horse and men and gave noe paie wittnes my hand

William Hext.

eodem die.

Memorandum quartermaster Mr Myllard did presse out of this Towne for the use of the State Sixe Horse to drawe wagon and clothes towards Nottingham, one dayes Jorney and gave noe paie

Mr Billers 1 George Curtes 1

John Daye 1 Christofer Sutton 1

Mr Blunt 1 Robert Greene 1

Ralph Millard.

DXXV. *Extract from a letter to Mr Richard Inge, Knighton*

Hall Papers XII, No. 265. [21 Nov. 1648.]

Sir

Upon Debates at severall meetings both in myne and my predecessors tymes * * your neglect (as it is conceaved) in not affordinge us your assistance for the good of this Corporacion was disputed of as conducede much to the preuidice thereof. And that your advice in these distempered tymes being one of our Seigniors as of much concernment in which both by your place and oath you ought to be assistinge, and also your non payment of taxes made and allowed at Comon Halls for ye maintenance and benefitt thereof, which you are oblieged to soe longe as you continue your place heere, is a very ill example to others; And that if you should still persist herein it would not onely prove very preuidicall to our Libertyes (which wee are all bound to maintaine) But (if others should doe the like) may much ruy[n]ate this most anntient place and leave it as a flock without a Sheapard for regulating wherof for present, and preventing of the like in the future I am intreated to acquaint you with their desires Which is that you would, not onely come amongst us and fill upp the Vacancie of your place But allsoe give Strengtheninge by your Countenance and councell to the Towne, and paye your taxes due, which this bearer will make knowne to you and all such other taxes for the future.

Will, Stanley Mayor.

DXXVI. *Memorandum concerning Mr Inge*

Hall Papers XII, No. 322. [Nov. 1648.] Memorandum that the 21 of November 1648 upon the debate of Francis Noble Chamberlin with Mr Richard Inge concerneing his returne amongst us as a member of our Corporacion his answer was that he should be ready to waite upon Mr Maior when he pleased but for his inhabiting with us he did incline rather to acquiesce where he was and if we did apprehend (as was intimated to him in our letter, that it were prejudicall to the Corporacion his not appeareing amongst us in person and purse upon all occasions we might dismiss him and put another in his stead, and this as he acknowledge justifieable by our Charter, but for petitioning for his dismission, which he saith we expect from him he doth decline that being a buisines so inconsiderable as not deserving his address to us in a petitionary way and he further saith that he doth apprehend we have noe need of him and may therefore wave him concerning his arreares for taxes he saith he paies where he is and his land with us paies and he conceaves not him selfe chargeable to contribute to our taxes being neither resident with us nor clameinge the freedome of our Burrow which he did professe to me he doth not and urgeinge of him so far as with civillity I thought fit that he would write his mind he told me he must consult with himselfe and the letter he should answer were large and though happily hereafter he might write yett he did incline rather to speake his mind words (as he said) dyeinge in their speaking but a letter would remaine and passinge through divers hands might be subiect to various and severall constructions.

DXXVII. *Examination before the Justices*

Hall Papers XII, No. 326. [29 Dec. 1648.] The examination of Robert Shenton Jun of Barwell in Com Leic. gent.

Confesseth that he and one Thomas Gilberte, together with the said Corporall [Cave] did betweene 10 of the Clocke att night drinke two healths, one to the Kinge and the other to the Prince, att the sayd Pollards house.

Memorandum that the sayd Mr Robert Shenton did paie the sayd 3*s. 4d.* to the use of the poore of that parishe, to be released for answeringe his misdeameanor att the Sessions or before the Committee.

DXXVIII. *Fear of an Enclosure riot*

Hall Papers XII, No. 351. [19 Feb. 1648/9.] [Footnote to Order to Constables to arrest certain persons—James Adcock, Simon Tipson, Frauncis Wright alias Ashwell John Rowley.] They all confesse that they hearinge there was leave graunted by thee parliament for the throweinge downe of the forrest of Leicester did this daye speake about 6 together, to come to M^r Maior and to knowe of him whether there were such order or noe, but denieth that they ever intended to stirr or to doe any other acte then to know the truth and upon the mediacion of M^r Butler the prosecutor and (they promisinge to give notice to M^r Maior if they shall here of any such intent) they are respited.

DXXIX. *Meeting of the Commissioners*

Hall Papers XII, No 117. [1648.] Att this meetinge M^r Beniamen Billers and M^r Thomas Weldon did bring from the Tennant the mannor of Assarby alias Asterby in Lyncolnesheire eightene pounds beinge two yeares guifte M^r Achame to this Corporacion and affirmeth that the Tennant promiseth to bringe everie Michallmas and they was allowed for Charges and expences and for a guide Cha: Cotes received the 16*li*.

DXXX. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XII, No. 184. [No date.] * * * it is agreed that the Post master at Lylchfeild shall have xx pence a weeke allowed him out of the Chamber of the Towne untill Michallmas next if he doe continue all that time till [illegible] his post for carrieinge of letters from this Towne to London [illegible] provided he weekly bringe to M^r Maior the weekly intelligence [from] London.

* * * It is alsono agreed that the meadow called Burgess [meadow] shalbe layd att Lammas next and used att Michallmas next for a Cowe pasture [until] Candlemas next and the nowe Cowe pasture to be then used [illegible] all the sayd terme for a Horse pasture.

[The High Sheriff to use the Great House at the Assizes and pay the town what he thinks right.]

Upon the informacion of the right honorable Lord Grey and the [illegible] milicia for this Towne and Countie, of the greate danger both [illegible] allso agreed att this Common Hall; That the Towne [and the] Subburbs be speedily putt in a posture of defence, by lystinge [? men] within the sayd Borough and Subburbs under foure Captaines [and each] division shall have libertie to chuse theire owne

Captaine [And it is] desired that Mr Maior and the Aldermen and Maiors Breethren in [illegible] to be present att the lystinge of theire wards and division And that Mr [Ward's two] wards and Mr Cradocks warde be lysted upon Wednesdaye morninge and Mr Ludlam and Mr Abneys and the Newarke upon Thursdaye morninge Mr [Murfyns] Mr Stanleys warde upon frydaye in the afternoone And that the [illegible] att the Towne Hall And that two Seriants goe alonge with the [illegible] to bringe in a perfect lyst in everie warde of all in each warde be[tween the ages of] 6 and 60. that notice maye be taken of those that doe not voluntary lyst themselves.

No. 185. (On back.)

Mr Ludlams	}	South devision 2.
Mr Abneys		
The Newarke		
Mr Billers	}	West devision 4.
Mr Murfyns		
Mr Stanley		
Mr Rudyards	}	North devision 3.
Mr Norrice two wards		
Mr Wards 2 wards	}	East devision 1.
Mr Cradocks ward		

DXXI. *Petition of Captain Atkinson*

Hall Papers XII, No. 203. [No date.]

Humbly Sheweth

That your petitioner for many years served this Towne and Garrison as a Lieutenant Captain Lieutenant and nowe as Captain under the Command of your honorable Committees for this Towne and Countie and for defence of the Kinge Parliament and this Corporacion, and did helpe by ye assistance of god to maintaine ye breach att ye unhappy storminge of ye Towne, and hath all ye said tyme done good and faithfull service, and still is willing uppon all occasions to doe ye like And that your petitioner hath lately by ye permission of ye Almighty God taken to wife Mary the relict of Arthur Noone late of this Towne deceased and hath at his owne proper charge newly erected a house wherein the said Arthur Noone did formerly dwell which was demolished in these unnaturall warrs, and is thereby become an inhabitant of this Borough and is willing to become a freeman thereof and to submit himselfe to ye good rule and government of the same.

[Demands freedom.]

Read and allowed payeinge 5*li.* before he be sworne.

DXXXII. *Petition of "Thomas Cutler and Margarett his wife"*

Hall Papers XII, No. 225. [No date.]

Humbly Sheweth

That your peticioners father and mother have been anntient Tennants to this Corporacion in a house wherein your peticioners now dwell and inhabite That they and their ancestors have built ye most parte thereof That your peticioners Aunt Hobbey gave two houses in Southgate to charitable uses in this Corporacion in consideracion that your peticioners said father and his children after him paying their Rent might quietly enioy the aforesaid house That your peticioners father and mother being now both deceased * * * They most humbly pray * * your worshipps wilbe pleased to admit your peticioners to become Tennants by Lease to your worshipps * * *

Read and denied because it is longe syncet a parte for a publique officer.

DXXXIII. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XII, Nos. 254-5. [? 1648.] It is att this Common Hall fully agreed Concluded and ordered for the benefitt and ease of the Inhabitants of this Borough that all the Common Wells within this Towne shall constantly from henceforth be kept in good repaire. And the Maior for the time beinge together with the Aldermen of everie warde shall nowe for present and yearlye hereafter (about the month of Maye) choose Well Reeves, who with the assistance of the Aldermen and Constables of everie ye severall wards shall assesse and taxe all such Inhabitants within theire said severall wards, which have used or ought to paie towards the repaire of theire said severall Common Wells And that the well Reeves in everie warde shall yearlye collect the severall summes of money so assessed and taxed as aforesayd to be ymployed for that use. And if it shall happen that any man shall refuse to paie his taxes so assessed * * it shall and may be lawfull for the said Maior * * to levie by warrant from the said Maior to the Constables and Well Reeves all such somes of money soe taxed upon everie inhabitant * * by distresse and sale of the offenders goods. * * And for want of sufficient distresse, then to bynde everie such person so refusinge to answer the premisses att the next generall Sessions * * or to committ him or them to warde.

[Fine for refusing to accept office of Well Reeve to be 5s.]

DXXXIV. *Petition of Gloves and Fellmongers of Mountsorrel*

Hall Papers XII, No. 340. [No date.] Sheweth that your petitioners have served to the sayd trades as Apprentices by the space of Seaven yeares accordinge to the Statute. That they are all of them poore in estate, the whole subsistence of them and their families wholly relyinge upon their maintenance by their sayd trades without which they are in no waye able to subsist. That your petitioners for a longe tyme enjoyed your Towne Markett to sell Their wares on the Saterdaye markett dayes till of late, And that many of your petitioners Ancestors have had the like freedome paieinge a small tribute yearly to this Corporacion of Leicester. That your petitioners beinge nowe of late interrupted for sellinge their wares in the sayd markett unlesse they become freemen of this borough, or have admittance from your worshipes and this Corporacion. And they beinge willinge to submitt themselves

Doe humbly praye, that your Worships would be pleased to take the premisses into your serious consideracions, and upon this their humble addresse unto your Worshipps to grant their admittance here on Saterdaye Markett dayes, paieinge such moderate yearly rent as your Worshipps shall thinke reasonable (haveinge regard to the hardnesse of the tymes and your petitioners Condicions) to which your petitioners shall submitt themselves

And as in duity bound dayely praye etc.
(Signed.)

Read and graunted they paieinge for fyne each of them ijs. a peece and ijs. a peece everie yeare att Michaelmas and they to sell onely what ware they make upp and dresse and to stand where the Clerke of the Markett for the time beinge shall appoint, other wise not to be admitted.

DXXXV. *Petition of Poor of Mountsorrel*

Hall Papers XII, No. 266. [No date.] Sheweth that whereas your Corporacion was intrusted by the last will of M^r Richard Nidd to purchase lands of the yearlie value of 15*l.* or there abouts in your Corporacions name to be yearlie distributed to and amongst your petitioners And an howse and farm in Bushbie in this Countie were accordinglie bought and purchased with the money of the said M^r Nidd in your names onelie in trust for your petitioners benefitt and at your

peticioners charge, which farm hath beene sence improoved, to a farr greater yearelie value, the old rent of 15*li.* yearelie being onelie paied to your petitioners and the rest deteyned from them, the improvement whereof also, your petitioners are informed by their councell is whollie due to them, and all arreres thereof according to the will and the estate by the conveyance there uppon made and setled.

Your petitioners being much pinched with want in theis hard times and unable and unfitt for suits and troubles doe humblie pray your performance of the said trust, and that they maie have all arrers of the rents and proffitts of the said farme deducting the charges and taxes thereof and that the same maie be whollie paied to them hereafter your petitioners herein desiring nothing but your iustice for what they conceive is due to them, or they shall readilie submitt and referr to the award and determination of Two lawyers twoo Divines or two gentlemen as you shall thincke fitt And your petitioners humblie desire your present answeare in writing.

DXXXVI. Dispute concerning tithe in the Southfield

Hall Papers XII, No. 323. [No date.] That upon the titell of Tith betwixt the farmores of the South feilds and the Master and Chaplings of Wigstones hospitall the diffarance beinge (by Ordinance of Parliment) to be desidet by the Justices of the peace of that Juresdiction wherein the sayd feilds lieth the sayd Master and Chaplings did repare to the Justices of the Countye hoo tooke upon them to adiudge the case wheerby the have intrenshed upon the Jurisdiction of Leicester for the South feild And seeing them selves not opposed by this Burrow have since by the sayd Master and Chaplings suggestions indevored to intrensh farther upon the twone [town] streets backsides and home closinge theere unto beloningeinge beinge no parte of the sayd Southfeild. In which backsides and home closeinge the twone [town] hath time out of minde taken all tithes as beloninge to the vicaridge of Maryes parish Leicester the premisses considered I desire the assistance of the twone [town] to mentayne theere right in such waye as by theare wisdom and counsell shall be thought fittest.

If the Towne will ingage in the shute Mr Hicklinge and my selfe will bare the one halfe of the charge if not it must fall upon them that have from time to time bought my cropp.

DXXXVII. Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen

Hall Papers XII, No. 329. [? 1648.] Att this meetinge it is agreed by all present that all those that have paid their taxe towards the paiement of ye soouldiers when Lt Generall Cromwell went into the North in Aug. 1648 shalbe payd for such quarterers as they then had, accoordinge to the rate and divident nowe made and all so for the sixe carriages which then went 6*li.* and to the officers for their paines *xxs.* which in toto amounteth to 26. 16. 8. whereof there is gathered by Taxe 23*li.* 8*s.* 10*d.* and it is agreed that the old Chamberlins shall paie the other 3. 8. 0. out of the Chamber of the Towne and to be allowed them in theirre accompts.

DXXXVIII. Meeting of Mayor and Justices

Hall Papers XII, No. 362. [? 1648.] Att this meetinge Mr Coleman the under usher of the Grammar Schoole of this Borrough (in regarde of divers Complaynts made against him to Mr Maior and the Justices,) is discharged by them of and from the place of beinge under usher, and he is to leave the place the 25th daye of March next, unles he leave off all other callings and professions and keepe himselfe solely to the employmēt of the schoole And he is to reterne his positive answere to Mr Maior within tenn dayes whether he will solely keepe himselfe to the Schoole or not otherwise to be dismissed.

DXXXIX. Chamberlain's Accounts. 1647-1648*Other receipts.*

*Item received of Mr Dannett in parte of a fyne for a lease of his tythes belonging to Dannetts Hall the sum of xl*li.**

Item received of Mr Dannett by Mr Chamberlain Noble beinge ye remainder of his fyne for the said lease of his Tythes the sume of xxxvli.

Item received of Mr Walter Rydings the younger for the moiety of his fyne for the tythes belonging to Westcoates the sume of xxxvli.

Item received of Mr John Hericke for a fyne for his tythes the sume of xli.

*Item received of Mr William Billers and Mr Richard Barnes for five bayes of building belonging to the great house the sume of l*li.**

*Item received of Henry Coulson in parte of his purchase for the Orchard belonging to the great house cl*i.**

*Item received of Mr Robert Blunt for halfe a yeares rent for the great house due from Coll. Needham at Lady day last v*li.**

Charitable gifts.

[Under Usher still only gets the Townes gift and not the *iij*l*l*s**. *vjs*. *vij*d**. (Rowlett) or *ii*l*l*s**. (Clarke).]

Item paid to the poore of Mountsorrel being the gift of Mr Richard Mudd deceased for one halfe yeares rent ended the 2nd of February 1647 [1647/8] for certains lands att Bushby the summe of *vij*l*l*s**. *xs*.

Item paid to the poore of Mountsorrel being the gifte of Mr Richard Nidd deceased for one wholes yeares rent due the 2nd of February 1648 for certaine lands att Bushby being the first yeare of increased rent the sume of *xxvij*l*l*s**.

Item paid to the poore of the severall parishes to be distributed in bread being one yeaeres gift of Mr Acham as may appeare by the divident upon the fyle *lxli*.

Item paid more to ye poore of the said severall parishes to be distributed in bread being allso his gifte as may appeare by the divident upon the fyle *xli*.

Item paid more to the poore of the said severall parishes to be distributed in bread for fower months ended at Michaellmas last according to Mr Achams will *vj*l*l*s**.

Fees, Wages, etc.

Item given to Ralph Dikes to get him forth of the Towne he beinge suspected to have the sicknes *js*.

Item paid to the Churchwardens of St Martin's parish to discharge ye towne of one Dorothy Chamberlin a stranger being very sick *xs*.

Item paid for Quarteringe 3 of the generalls souldiers by order from Mr Maior *vjs*.

Item paid for the hire of two horses for Mr Aston and William Warberton to goe to Stapleford to Mr^{is} Eure about the purchase of the great house *vjs*.

Item paid for Quartering 6 Troopers and their horses which did belonuge to the generall by Mr Maiors appoynment *xijs. vjd*.

Item paid more for Quartering 8 of Lt Generall Cromwells souldiers and their horses by Mr Maiors appoynment *xvijs. ix*d**.

Item paid by the appoynment of Mr Maior and the Aldermen to those that Quartered Coll. Thorneys souldiers in this Towne more then the States allowance as may appeare by the severall Bills the summe of *xiii*l*l*s**. *ijs*.

Item paid to William Warberton and Joseph Bradley which they paid to Mr^{is} Ewer in parte of the bargaine for the great house *ch*.

Item paid to Doctor Walker to leave of the bargaine of the great house *xvli*.

Item paid to Mr Churchman which he paid in London for the use of this Corporacion to the Coeheires in full for the purchase of the great house the summe of c. c. c.li.

Item paid to the Clarke of the peace for the county of Leicester for discharge of severall Indictments against severall parishes within this Borough for defect of the high wayes by the appoynment of Mr Maior and divers of the Aldermen ijli.

Item paid to John Turvile for makeing the Seale and enlarging the Mace vjli. xs.

Item paid to Robert Bradshawe for mending and drawing the two pictures of Mr Heyrickes which hang in the Parler xvs.

Item paid for twelve months tax for the Forrest close to Mr Boyer for the Army ixs. ijd.

Item paied him more for twelve months for the Irish tax for the said close is. iiijd.

Item paid to Mr Pawley being the purchase of the Pesthouses xxli.

Item given by the appoynment of Mr Maior and some of the Aldermen to the poore people when they tooke possession there ijs. vjd.

Item paid to Moses Andrew for Naylinge upp Mountsorrell mens shopp windowes at severall tymes js.

Item paid to Thomas Goadby for keeping farrenors out of the market 28 dayes at the rate of 12^d per diem ijli. viijs.

Item paid to Mr Smith of Long Whatton for 3 months tax for the Army for freakes lands xviijs.

Item paid for 6 stulpes to sett up in freer lane to keepe Carts from off the east way ijs. viiijd.

Item paid to Mr Deacon for the Irish tax for the Southfeilds ijli.

Item paid to make upp a tax for payment of quarters when Lt Generall Cromwell went into the North ijli. viijs.

Item lent to the Churchwardens of the parish of St Maries towards payment of their minister att Mr Dannett Abneys request viijli.

Item paid to ye Constable of Mr Abneys Ward for two three months tax for the Southfeilds ended at Michaellmas last for Thomas Lord Fairfax Army ijli.

Repaires.

Item paid for repaire of the great house for wood laths Nayles Lyme sand slates Slate pins and workmanship as appeares by bill xxxijli. xiiijjs. vjd.

Item paid him (i.e. Thomas Darbye) more for paveing and stuffe att the Antelopp bridge as appeares by bill xiijs. iiijd.

Item paid for mending the Netherend of St Margarets Church gate neare the Anteloppe bridge and for stone and gravell as appeares by bill *iijl. xiiij. ix d.*

Item paid for worke done at the Draperie in deviding the Draperie Chamber and makeing one parte of it convenient for a Lether Hall as appeares by bills. *ixli. vijs. id.*

Item paid for throwing downe the Bullwarke next ye Southgate as appeares by bill. *vjs. vjd.*

Item paid for throwing downe ye Bullwarke by Tho. Hartshorne house as appeares by bill. *xs.*

Item paid for throwing downe the Bullwarke and the Mount over against the mill Lane end as appeares by bill. *ili. xs.*

Item paid for throwing downe the Bulwarke neare ye Newarke gates within the Mill lane as appeares per bill. *viijs.*

Wyne etc.

Item paid for a quart of sack given to Mr Speechly when he deliv[er]ed in a Deed which concerned the Towne which was taken away when the Towne was stormed is. *vjd.*

Item paid for wyne bisket and other banqueting when Mr Maior and divers Aldermen went to visit Sir Arthur Hazlerigge at his goeing into the North as appeares by bill. *ijli. iiijs. viijd.*

Item paid for wyne biskets Suger beare and Tobacko when Mr Maior and the Aldermen went to vizit Lord Generall Crumwell att his goeing into the North as appeares by bill *ijli. vjs. iiid.*

Item paid for wyne Suger and Tobacko when Mr Peeters and Mr Pallmer received the Two Hundred pound of the Towne lent to the Lord Grey *vjs.*

Supers.

Item of Mr Watts in parte of his rent in respect of the Bulwarks *ili.*

Charge	1701.	8.	5.
discharge	1264.	02.	3.
Remains	437.	6.	2.
Paid to Hospitall	115.	13.	9.
Supers	42.	19.	11.
paid to New Chair	80.	0.	0.
Respited out of their accompt which they are charged with and have not received.	50.	0.	0.
remains	40.	0.	0.
	108.	12.	6.

DXL. The Army and Crown Lands

Hall Papers XII, No. 710. [11 May 1649—14 April 1650.] [Extract from a letter from Mr Pearson.] The Army hath appointed some Officers to view all Contracts, that noe preemption be granted to any but those that are jmediate Tenants in the strictnesse of the letter, and they intend to divide all lands that are within their Act amongst themselves, for they fear the security will not hold out to discharge all their arrears Upon Fryday next every Agent is to give in a Note where he intends to purchase for his Regiment: if 2 pitch upon the same thing there are Regulators who are to judge betwixt them and to provide for the one some where els, I conceive it will be best to putt some officer upon it, and to agree with him before he Contract, what he shall have for it Sir Arthurs Officer for his Regiment I intend, and he shall settle it upon those you desire I can have as reasonable Termes as I believe you can purchase att. I have here inclosed sent you an Act for sale of the fee farme Rents, by that you will know what to doe concerning your hospitall, you must either purchase or loose the Revenue noe provision being made for you.

DXLI. Meeting of the Mayor and Commissioners

Hall Papers XII, No. 440. [1 June 1649.] It is alsono agreed and ordered that Mr Robert Blunt shalbe desired when he goeth to London to acquaint the Burgesses for this Corporacion what moneys are due to the Trinitie Hospitall in or neare Leicester and to the Corporacion out of his late Maiesties revenues out of the Honour of Tutburne and Leicester and out of the receipts of the Colledge of Maries Leicester etc and to desire them to take care that the sayd yearely paiements to be continued in case the said Revenues should be sould.

- DXLII. Letter from Anthony Pearson to Captain Hubbert

Hall Papers XII, No. 658. [16 March 1649/50.] I pray you acquaint Mr Mayor and the Aldermen of Leicester or some of them

That the Trustees and Contractors for Crowne Lands will not divide or sell parte of any Mannor etc except to the jmediate Tenants

That the Trustees Contractors and Agents for the Army have declared that neither Coleman nor the Borough of Leicester are jmediate tenants

That the whole Honor of Leicester is pitcht upon by a Regiment and that if the Towne of Leicester will purchase, it must be from them.

That so soone as the Honor of Leicester is contracted for if noe

better way can be found out I will make the best termes I can for the Corporation I will endeavor to make my bargain with the soulders before they deale for it.

Yours

Ant. Pearson.

[Hall Papers XII, No. 631. [18 Feb. 1649.] Daniel Dekken wrote to say that it was decided that the Corporation was no tenant i.e. no immediate tenant.

Also. "There is a vote past the house to make voyd the Charter of Henry the 7th graunted to Northampton and I looke upon it as a thinge much concerninge Leicester."]

DXLIII. Reply to Mr. Pearson

Hall Papers XII, No. 659. [18 March 1649.] Extract. Wee allso approve of your puttinge it upon Sir Arthurs Officer for his Regiment, and leave it to your further care to compound with him for it upon such termes as you thinke best for us and he after to settle it upon our Trustees.

To our loveing freind Mr Anthonie Peirson att the Honorable Sir Arthur Hazelriggs Lodginge in Kinge Street Westminster.

DXLIV. Petition to the Parliament of England

Hall Papers XII, No. 674. [No date.] The humble petition of the Mayor Aldermen and Chamberlins of the Borough of Leicester, Masters of the Hospitall of the Holy Trinity in ye Newarke neere Leicester.

Sheweth [recites act of foundation, grants etc.]

And that ye said Summe of 278*li. 8s. 3d.* hath ever since beeene constantly and duely paid by ye Receiver of the said duchy, as may appeare by Certificates from ye Awditor and Receiver till ye beginning of the Warrs, and was then by ye Honorable Committee for ye Revenue ordered to be continued for ye maintenance of ye said Hospitall.

Now soe it is That your peticioners understand by a late Act that ye fee farme rents are appointed to be sold, out of which thaforesaid Summe was paid to ye Hospitall, and finding noe provision made in ye Act for those 110 poore aged ympotent persons therein.

Your Peticioners humblie supplicate this Honorable House, that ye said summe of 278*li. 8s. 3d.* may be excepted from sale and may be confirmed unto ye said Hospitall, and for ever Vested and Setled in ye Masters thereof, out of the fee farm Rents issueing out of ye Borough of Leicester and other places adiacent within the Honor of Leicester.

And they shall pray etc.

Copie of Leicesters peticion concerning the old Hospital presented to the Parliament the 23^o April 1650.

DXLV. Meeting of the Mayor and Commissioners

Hall Papers XII, No. 696. [14 April 1650.] Att this meetinge it is ordered and agreed, that in regarde the fee farme rents belonginge to his late Maiestie are upon Sale, out of which the Old Hospitall paie have tyme out of mynde beene anciently pd that Mr William Billers, Mr William Stanley, and Mr Edmund Cradock, or two of them, (provided the said Mr Billers be one) shall presently goe to London, to petition the parliament and trustees for sale of the said fee farmes, or whom els it shalbe thought requisite, for the continuinge of the said Hospitall paie, and those belonginge to it, and allso for the Schoolemasters paye of $\text{xl}i.$ per Annum given be the late Queene Elizabeth and they to take with them what writings shalbe thought Convenient about speedinge the same, and they to have such to attend them as they shall thinke fittinge, and that theire Charges be borne out of the Chamber of the Towne.

[Fee Farm Rents 1600–1650. Long Petition of Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses of Leicester.

The rents for the Newarke have been unpaid for 2 years. The Corporation has provided for the 112 old people during this time. They have spent more than the rents due to Crown. Ask that when Receiver holds audit they may be paid the surplus, and that in future the allowances for the Almesmen, the Master's fee and the Minister and School Master's pay may be paid.

Detailed list of rents amounting to £245. 2s. od.]

DXLVI. Order of Mayor and Justices

Hall Papers XII, No. 391. [2 April 1649.] These are to give notice and warninge to All Householders and Inhabitants within this Borough, that they and every of them Doe forthwith sufficiently pave or cause to be paved, the Comon Streets, and wayes, soe farre as doth belongeth unto every one of their severall houses. And if they or any of them shall make default herein, then they are to be proceeded against at the next generall Sessions etc.

DXLVII. Meeting of Mayor and Justices

Hall Papers XII, No. 396. [April 1649.] Ordered that everie parishoner and inhabitant which are householders in the parishe of St Margaretts and S. Maries, shall goe or send a sufficient person in theire roome and stead to gather stones for the amendinge of the Common wayes, accordinge to lawe in that case provided.

Ordered allso that everie Inhabitant that is householder in the parishe of S^t Martins and S^t Nicholas, shall likewise goe (on Frydaye next into the South feilds to gather Stones for the amendinge of Common wayes there as aforesaid And that the parishioners (as aforesayd) of the parishe of All Saints shall goe the same daye into S^t Margaretts feilds to gather stones as aforesayd.

DXLVIII. Meeting of Mayor and Justices

Hall Papers XII, No. 397. [29 April 1649.] Att this meetinge it is fully agreed by all present That in regard the smaller wards within this Borough doe performe nere doble service in the night watch, to the bigger wards, and for ease whereof It is ordered as followeth. That the warde called M^r Maior his nowe warde, and M^r Ludlams warde called the Saterdaye markett warde, be ioyned together for the nightly watch And to beginge to charge to watch a Convenient number, in one of the wardes, havinge respect where it left the last yeare, and soe everie night till they have gone through both the wards, and then to beginge as aforesayd And that M^r Billers his galltrey gate warde, M^r Cradocks Belgrave gate warde, and M^r Blunt Bishopps fee warde, be ioyned together in like manner And that M^r Norrice his Northgate and Senveye gate be allsoe ioyned together in like manner. And that M^r Murfynes warde, M^r Rudyards warde, M^r Wardes warde and M^r Abneys warde on both sides the south gates doe continue to sett forth the watch as formerly and the Constables and thirdbarrowes are to have regarde to the poorer sorte and not to charge them to watch equall with the ritch.

Att this meetinge M^r Alderman Abney is desired to take care of the throwinge downe the worke nere the nether end of Milston lane, and to make a Convenient passage, and he is allowed to disburse about the same 6s. 8d. and that to be paid out of the Chamber of the Towne.

DXLIX. Order from the Committee for the County of Leicester

Hall Papers XII, No. 461. [3 May 1649.] Accordinge to the desire of Collonell Reynolds wee have perused and examined the extent of the Order signed by the Quarter Master generall, for 3 troopes of the said Collonells Regiment to contract into the markett Townes of 4 Hundreds in this Countye videlicet Gartrey, Goodlaxton, Sparkenhoe, and West Goscott hundreds, And doe hereby interpret and give our sence That by the said Order he ought not to quarter any of his said troopes in

the Bishopps fee, as parte of Gartrey Hundred in regard it is a member of the Corporacion of Leicester but that the said troopes ought forthwith to withdrawe themselves into the markett Townes within the said Hundreds.

William Stanley
Fr. Smalley
Edm. Cradock.

(On back)

Corporall

You are to remaine still or remove your quarters out of Leicester, as the Committee of the County shalbe pleased to interpret and send theire sence of the extent of that order signed by the Quarter Master Generall for 3 troopes of my Regiment to Contract into the markett Townes of 4 Hundreds in this County whose Comands you are to obey.

J. Reynolds.

April 30.

DL. Examination before the Mayor and Justices

Hall Papers XII, No. 430. [9 May 1649.] The examination of William Holmes Baker.

This examineth beinge demanded whether he did cutt any of the Ordinall belonginge to the Companye of Bakers sayth that he did about twoe months synce borrowe of Henrie Wormell the Ordinall of the Bakers and he did take or cutt out Certaine branches forth of the said Ordinall, but cannot certaintely remember howe many. And he sayth the reason that moved him to it was because he was trobled for bakinge of pies more then any of the other bakers were.

20th of Sept. 1649.

Memorandum. That the day and yeare above written William Allsopp warden of the Company of Bakers and Thomas Rogers one of the said Company Certified Mr Maior that the above mentioned William Holmes had given their said Company satisfaccion for the wronge he had done them in defaceing their Ordinall and therefore desired he might be discharged from any further trouble for the same.

DLI. Order from Parliament concerning the Mace

Hall Papers XII, No. 581. [6 June 1649.] Ordered by the Commons Assembled in Parliament that the Mace made by Thomas Maundy of London Goldsmith bee delivered into the Charge of the Serieant at Armes attending the Parliament, and that the said Mace bee Carried

before the Speaker, and that all other great Maces to bee used in this Common Wealth bee made according to the same forme and patterne And that the said Thomas Maundy have the makeing thereof and none other.

Hen. Scobell Clericus
Parliament.

DLII. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XII, No. 626. [No date.] Att this Common Hall it is agreed and ordered by them present that the great Mace of this Borough of Leicester be altered accordinge to order [of] Parliament of the 6th of June 1649 att the Corporacion Charge.

The summe of the Evidence produced to the Jurie upon the enquirie of the Riott Committed against Mr John Harding etc att the privie Sessions held att the Borough aforesaid June 7, 1649.

It is evidenced the said Mr Harding was peaceably seated in the Pulpit and that Mr Richard Ludlam came into the Church neare to his owne seat, and seeing Mr Hardinge in the Pulpit, said what doth this man heere, wee will have him out and one William Stretton answered come Ile be one after which Mr Ludlam went to ye Pulpit and opened the dore and pulled the said Mr Hardinge by the Coate (and one sayes one Mr Cooke a Scholler followed him as his man and stood at the staire foote) Mr Ludlam said Sir come downe or you must come downe, by what authority come you heere, and another said Mr Ludlam bad him come downe he should not preach, the said Hardinge answered he came thither by authority of the Committee. Mr Ludlam said whome of the Committee, he answered Mr Cradock, Mr Ludlam answered Mr Cradock and the Committee had nothing to doe in the parish, whereupon Mr Harding said if they comanded him downe he would come downe, Mr Ludlam came down and the said Mr Cooke went upp and disputed with Mr Harding in Lattine and told him he was a Jesuite, Mr Cley Junior then also disputed with him and that ye Churchwardens and parish Clarke came and desired Mr Hardinge to come downe, and that Anthony Gilbert went into the Pulpit and many on the Staires more in ye Ally and some on seates, some reached to pluck him over the pulpit some layed hands on him others called him Jesuiticall Roague others one of Jeroboams preists downe with him when he was brought downe one puld him by the haire others punct him, one other said take him to ye River and drowne him the number particularly named as Actors in riotous wordes

and actions 17 some testified the number yt abetted and acted about 60^{tie} others about 40^{tie} others about 30^{tie} And the Jury hereupon find Seaventeene yt was particularly named to be riotous and 5 unknowne but they did acquit the parish Clarke and Churchwardens as being Church officers and adiudged what they did as being in office and not out of violent intentions, as others that had no call or authority soe to do.

DLIII. Meeting of the Mayor and Justices

Hall Papers XII, No. 504. [10 Aug. 1649.] It is agreed that there be an Order drawne up against the next Common Hall, that in regard, the Corporacion have in their Hands 10*l.* of a guift of Mr Bennett, and 10*l.* of a guift of Mr Warde That they would yearely (in lewe thereof) allowe xx*s.* per Annum for ever or untill the shall laye out the said 20*l.* for land to be given yearely to the severall parishes of this Corporacion, one successively and after an other towards the settinge out of one poore Child yearely to apprentice.

It is allso agreed that there shalbe yearely paide out of the Chamber of the Towne, the some of *xs.* yearely, upon St Thomas daye, to be distributed amongst the poore of St Maries parishe, yearely untill they shall laye out x*l.* which was the guifte of Mr Julius Billers deceased, nowe in their hands, towards buyinge of land for that purpose.

DLIV. Imprisonment for heresy

Hall Papers XII, No. 551. [31 Oct. 1649.] Theis are to Certify that Samuell Otes was duely Convicted before us Thomas Beaumont Esq^r and Peter Temple Esq^r two Justices of the Peace and quorum for this County of Leicester to have published these errors at the Castle of Leicester xxxth day of October instant, Videlicet That the baptizinge of Infants is unlawful That the baptisme of people who were infants is voyd and that the parochiall Ministers of the Church of England are not true Ministers And Raph London was also duely convicted before us to have published at the same tyme and place this error That the baptisme of Infants is unlawfull and that he hath maynteyned it and will maynteyne it And thereupon the said Samuell Otes and Raph London beinge so convicted by their Confession before us were the same day ordered by us to renounce their said errors in the publicke Congregation at the said Castle of Leicester where such their offence was Committed, upon this xxxijth day of October 1649 by nyne of the Clocke in the morninge whereof they and each of them

haveing faiyled are to be Committed to prison by us untill they and each of them shall find two sufficient suertyes that he or they shall not publish or meynteyne the said errors any more, accordinge to Ordinance of Parliament of the second day of May 1648 in that behalfe.

Tho. Beaumont
Pe. Temple.

DLV. Meeting of the Mayor and Commissioners

Hall Papers XII, No. 623. [30 Jan. 1649/50.] Att this meeting it is agreed and ordered that the sume of One hundred pounds (the moiety of ye 200*l.* in ye Townes hands the remainder of the moneys collected for ye releife of such welfaected persons within the Borough and county of Leicester as were ruined at ye takeing of the Towne by ye Kings forces) shalbe lent out gratis to such able persons within this Borough as ye overseers of the poore of the severall parishes shall present to Mr Maior and ye Justices with good securitie for the same such as the said Maior and Justices shall thinke fitt 20*l.* to each man to be ymployed for setting poore people of this Borough on worke to be lett out for 12 months and noe longer.

Att this meeting it is agreed that Robert Brewin Master of the Bridewell shall have 10*l.* of the said moneys he putting in good securitie for the same such as the Maior and Justices shall thinke fitt, to sett poore people on worke.

Att this meeting it is referred to Mr Warde, Mr Abney, and Mr Blunt to sett poore people on worke in throwing downe ye workes att horsefaire and such other necessary worke for ye Towne as they shall thinke fitt for a month or thereabouts not exceeding the sume of xli. to be expended and to be paid by ye new Chamberlins.

DLVI. Letter about a heretical book

Hall Papers XII, No. 642. [18 Feb. 1649/50.] Honored Sir

After our due respects premised with a thankfull acknowledgement of all your loveing respects manifested to us and our Corporacion We take leave to acquaint you that upon our enquiree after the booke entituled a fiery flying Roll composed by one Copp, [therefore by them restored resolved by the high Courte of Parliament to conteyne in it much blasphemy and] entituled the light and dark

sides of God came to our viewe being composed as wee are informed by one Jacob Bathomley some tymes a shoomaker in our Borough of Leicester which Booke upon perusall in our apprehensions wee finde to be of a very dangerous consequence and lets open a very wide dore to Atheisme and profanes Wee therefore make bold by this bearer Mr Edm. Cradock to present one of the said Bookes to your view intreating your assistance and direccion what wee may best doe in it for which as also for all your loveing favours towardes us wee shall [ever] stand obliged to be

Your humble servants

William Speechley Maior

William Stanley

Thomas Blunt.

To the Right Worshipful Peter Temple Esqr.

[The words in square brackets are written in another hand and ink and do not quite fit into the letter.]

DLVII. *Soldiers exact money from taxpayers*

Hall Papers XII, No. 698. [11 March 1649/50.] Coram Willelmo Stanley et Edmo Cradock Commiss. pro le tax. This day Thomas Manninge of Leicester Inholder testified before Captain Bushell and the Commissioners abovesaid that on Saturday night last the Constable of Bishoppesfee ward in the said Towne Leicester demanded three shillings tax charged upon his house, he haveing paid five shillings for it before to Mr George Pallmer Collector for the said Towne of Leicester who received it by order from the said Commissioners and he sayeth that the Souldiers demanded of him the said Thomas Manninge two shillings [and] six pence for comeing for it whereupon he desired them to use him as they did others and then they told him they had 4d. in the shilling of others and soe he paid his tax to the Constable and gave the Souldiers 10d., and a flagon of beare for their comeing for it and he further sayeth that the said Constable told him that the Souldiers had been with the Commissioners, and they could not agree and further sayeth not.

Tho. Manninge.

(eodem die et Anno.)

Robert Holmes Constable of Bishoppesfee ward aforesaid testified before the said Captain and Commissioners that the said Souldiers ordered him not to take any money till their quarters were paid and satisfied by those that were in Arrears of their tax, and he sayeth the

said Souldiers tooke his Roll from him that he could not show it to any, and sayeth that these Souldiers bid him receive any money if he dared till they had a groat in ye shilling paid.

the mark of
Robert Holmes.

Allso Richard Wells Constable then testified that ye said Constable received 1*s. 6d.* of him for ye tax and ye souldiers forced them to pay them fower pence in money and a flagon of Beare for comeing for it.

Richard Wells.

Allso Emma Tarlington wife of John Tarlington then testified that the said Constable received of her 2*s. 6d.* for a tax and the Souldiers had of her Eight pence and a flagon of Beare for comeing for it.

Signed
Emma E. Tarlington.

Witness thereunto

George Pallmer
John Dorney.

DLVIII. *Petition of Company of Cordwayners*

Hall Papers XII, No. 556. [No date.] Sheweth

That your petitioners are all freemen of this Corporacion and are united into a Company and had an ordinall which consisted of divers wholesome by lawes and rules tending to ye benefit of ye Commonwealth ye good ordering of ye Company and suppressing of such as are not free men which ordinall was confirmed by the judges of Assize and by the Maior of this Borough for allmost 200 yeaeres past.

Soe it is that att the storme of this Towne your petitioners ordinall was plundered away and your petitioners to their great charge have procured a new ordinall to be made which was allowed at a Common Hall in ye maioraltie of Mr Abney and since confirmed by the Judge of Assize as not being repugnant to ye lawes of this Realme and approved and allowed in the Maioralty of Mr Thomas Blunt and Mr William Stanley, that contrary to the Knowne and anntient customes of this Borough and to our said Ordinall divers of ye Coblers in this Borough though not freemen of the same doe keep open Shopps make wares take apprentices and doe Covenant to teach them ye trade of a Shoomaker or Cordwayner and doe also worke in back houses contrary to ye statute to the damage to the people of this Nation ye

great impoverishing and allmost undoing of your peticioners. And whereas your peticioners are informed one Robert Carr hath petitioned to your worshipps at this Hall for his freedome who hath beene a Cheife agent in ye breaking the anntient Priviledges graunted to us by our said Ordinall etc. * * * Wee therefore humblie pray your Worshipps * * to assist us in the prohibiting and suppressing all such offendors * * and not to admit the said Robert Carr nor any other to become a freeman of this Borough wee haveing more of the trade then can well subsist already.

DLIX. *The Mastership of Wigstons Hospital*

Hall Papers XII, No. 606. [No date.] It is required of the Master of Wigstons Hospitall in Leicester.

That the Master be a Minister All others are incapable.

That he reside per se or per deputacionem these are the words of the last Patent graunted by Parliament to Mr Job. Grey.

That the Master Preach twice per Annum.

That he pay everie poore man and woman in the Hospitall 16d. per weeke.

To rayse rather then destroy ye ends of the Founder I offer besides my owne continuance at severall first tymes and out of my allowance according to ye Foundacion to give freely 40*l.* to a Deputie (though there be one upon the Place called the Confrator who hath a Stipend from the foundacion and a house in it where he now dwells) whose worke is to rule the people in the Masters absence, pray with them, and preach to them.

20*l.* to the poore of the Hospitall who have bare 16*d.* per weeke and never more allowed by any Master.

A Sallary for a Publique Receiver who shall give a cleere accompt what the Revenue yearly is. The Maior and Aldermen of Leicester complayning that former Masters were Receivers themselves and concealing (to a generall dislike) the value of the Place.

To reserve soe much to my selfe, as may defray my Expences of travelling to and fore [froe], as ofte as the service of Christ and this Commonwealth shall require I allso promise the well afected party that in case I shall upon experience be soe satisfied in them and they in me that wee shall agree to walke in a Christian comunion as Pastor and people and I would probably come and fixe amongst them.

Richard Lee.

DLX. *Extract of letter from W^m Garret*

Hall Papers XII, No. 657. [No date.] Bishop Andrews on the Commandements if you please to send it to me I shall without fayle returne you a far better of the same mans doing on the Commandements.

Wm. Garret in
Margaret Street London.

DLXI. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1648-1649**Other receipts for the yeare*

Item received of M^r Edmund Cradocke for one whole yeares rent due att Candlemas last for land att Bushbie being the gifte of M^r Nid to the poore of Mountsorrel xxxs.

Item received by [blank] Ashbie for one yeare of Mr Achams gifte to be given to ye poore of this Corporacion in bread the last Sunday in everie other month the summe of ixli.

Item received of Nathaniell Churchman for that parte of the great house under the great gallery for one halfe yeare due at Michaellmas 1649 iijli. vjs. viijd.

Item received of M^r John Maior for another parte of the great house now in his occupacion for one halfe yeare due at Michaellmas 1649 iijli. xiijs. iiijd.

[Long list of Mountsorrell glovers who pay ijs. for freedom on market days. Several more 2 pages later.]

Receipts for fynges for shoppes and Stalls in Saturday market

Imprimis received of M^r Edmund Cradocke Mercer for a fyne for his shopp. iijli. vjs. viijd.

Item received of M^r Samuell Wanley Mercer for a fyne for his doble shopp vjli. xiijs. iiijd.

Item received of M^r William Franke Mercer for a fyne for his doble shopp vjli. xiijs. iiijd.

Item received of Robert Stanley Mercer for a fyne for his shopp iijli. vjs. viijd.

Item received of Nicholas Sherwin Mercer for a fyne for his shopp iijli.

Item received of M^r John Birkenhead for a fyne for a Mercers Shopp iijli. vjs. viijd.

Item received of John Antell for a fyne for a Mercers Shopp in his occupacion *vli.*

Item received of Nathaniell Churchman Shoomaker for a fyne for a double stall *ijli.*

Item received of George Ludlam for a Chandlers shopp in his occupacion *jli.*

Item received of Henry Watts for a Shoomakers shopp in his occupacion *ili. xs.*

Item of Andrew Horton for a fyne for his Shoomakers shopp *ili. xs.*

Item received of George Ball Shoomaker for a fyne for his shopp. *ili. xs.*

Item received of Robert Cave Chandler for a fyne for his shopp. *ili. vjs. viijd.*

Item received of Thomas Ludlam Chandler for a fyne for his shopp. *ili. xiijs. iiijd.*

Item received of John Browne Shoomaker for a fyne for his shopp. *ili. xs.*

Item received of Thomas Huffin Shoomaker for a fyne for his shopp. *ili. vjs. viijd.*

Item received of John Jeffery for halfe a Shoomakers stall for fyne *xvs.*

Item received of Mr Dannett Abney for a fyne for a Millers shopp. *ili.*

Item received of Joseph Wells Mercer for a fyne for his shopp. *ijli. vjs. viijd.*

Item received of Mr John Hynde for a Millers Shopp in his occupacion per fyne *ili.*

Item received of George Boyer for a fyne for a Shoomakers stall. *ijli.*

Item received of Mr Robert Blunt Mercer for a fyne for a shopp in his occupacion *ijli. vjs. viijd.*

Item received of Francis Martin for a Chandlers shopp in his occupacion *ili.*

Item received of Mr John Norrice for a fyne for a shopp under Gainsburgh.

Other receipts

Item received of Mr William Billers being the gift of Mr Julius Billers towards the releife of the poore of the parish of Maries the sume of *xli.*

Item received of Mr Thomas Somerfeild Crier towards the repaire of Westbridge and Sunday bridge by order from the Committee *iiii.*

Item received of Mr John Angell lecturer in parte of the arrears of *35li.* payable by him to the towne being now but *15li.* in arrear *xli.*

Charitable gifts

[Under usher gets his *iijli.* vjs. viijd. and *iiii.* from Rowlatt and Clarke again.]

[Paid various sums to Auditor for Horsemill tenements in Swyne market, Shambles and Draperie, Shopp and Sheds, Castle Mills.]

Fees Wages

Item paid by appoynment of Mr Maior and Mr Cradocke towards the quartering of *140* Scotch prisoners and to prevent their quartering in ye Towne *iiii.*

Item paid to Mr Priddey Chirurgeon to Coll. Overtons Regiment to quarter himself and *5* souldiers as appeares by note under his hand and by order from Mr Maior *vs.* *vjd.*

Item paid to Stephen Pelsant for *500* weight of Coles for the Gards when Maior Generall Skippsons regiment quartered in towne *ixs. viijd.*

Item paid to the said Stephen Pelsant for *1000* weight of Coles for the Guards when the Lord Generalls regiment quartered in Towne staying *2* nights and a day *xviijs. iiiijd.*

Item paid Mr Martin for wood and Cole used att the Guard when Duke Hamilton was prisoner in his house as appeare by his bill. *vs.*

Item paid which was spent upon Coll. Lamberts Officers in wyne Beare and Tobacco, when they came for free quarter heere but through persuasion went further *ijs. iiiijd.*

[Other payments for souldiers. Cp. Leys Company, Cp. Pitsons Co. Coll. Reynolds Regiment.]

Item paid to Roger Brookesbie for makeing one new wainscott dore and for a latch and catch to it with a paire of bands and for mending the seeling and adding new to it in the Commissioners Chamber att the great house *xviijs.*

Item paid to Mr Clement Needham for *4* months taxe for the Vicariall Tythes of Bruntingthorpe for the forces raised for the defence of this Countie ended the *20th* of October *1648.* *vjs. iiiijd.*

Item paid to Mr William Francke for a taxe charged upon Southfields and Towne lands for paying off the souldiers of this County as appeares by his receipt, by order from Mr Maior. *iijli.*

Item paid to Mr Thomas Blunt for hire of two horses to carry himselfe and Mr Aston to Harborough to treat with Coll. Reynolds to take off his souldiers quartered upon the Towne and for their charges then ix.s.

Item paid for carrying Summons to the witnesses att Knighton concerning ye riott. [blank.]

Item paid to Mr Somerfeld for horsehire for Mr Aston to goe to Warwicke to waite upon the Judges and to carry a letter from the Towne about the riott made upon Mr Hardinge. [blank.]

Item paid to [blank] Bradley widdow for two Jersey wheeles to sett the poore on worke committied to the Bridewell. vijs.

*Item paid to Mr John Birkhead as Collector of a tax for the Armie being moneys that could not be collected i*li*. vijd.*

Item paid to Mr Whalley for poundage for the moneys in arreare 2 yeares to ye viccar of S. Maries Leicester. [blank.]

*Item paid to the Overseers of the poore of the parish of Maries, parte of the 6*li* received of Mr Whalley of the arrears due to the Viccar of Maries Leicester xij*li*.*

*Item paid to Mr Aston for his expences to London, and for Mr Recorder his fee paid him there by Mr Aston about ye riott made upon Dr Hardinge. iiij*li*. xviijs. iiijd.*

*Item paid Mr Henry Hemings Collector for 4 months tax ymposed upon freaks land belonging to the Towne for the payment of the county souldiers that went with the Lord Grey to Utcer as appears by his receipt. iiiij*li*. xiijs. vijd.*

*Item paid for Wyne Biskets and Suger when Mr Maior and the Aldermen went to vizit Lt Generall Crumwell and his sonne att their comeing out of the North as appears by bill. ij*li*. xjs.*

Item paid for a quarte of Sacke and a quarte of clarett given to Mr Bassnetts two sonnes when they preached att S. Martins ijs. iiijd.

*- Item paid to the footpost of Litchfeild for 53 weeekes pay at 1*s*. 8*d*. per weeke given by the Towne by order of a Common Hall the summe of iiiij*li*. viiijs. iiijd.*

Item paid six gunners and twenty Metrosses that were goeing into ye North by order of Mr Maior and divers Aldermen att Gainsburgh vs.

DLXII. *Examination before the Mayor and Justices*

Hall Papers XII, No. 724. [14 May 1650.] This day Mr Edward Pallmer had a lycense signed by the said Maior and Justices of peace to travell to London he makeing oath that his occasion thither was onely to follow some suites in lawe there and to sell some goods he had there and this was graunted according to an Act of Parliament of the 26th of February 1649 entituled an Act for removeing all Papists and all officers and Souldiers of fortune and divers other delinquents from London and Westminster, and confineing them within five miles of their dwellings.

[The license is on the back.]

DLXIII. *Expenses of the new mace*

Hall Papers XII, No. 794. [5 Aug. 1650.]

The new Mace wayeth 87 ounces

$$\begin{array}{l} 12d\ 10\frac{1}{2}\ \text{besides Serves and Staffe} \\ \text{att}\ 11s.\ \text{per oz comes to} \end{array} \left. \begin{array}{r} 48li.\ 03s.\ 06d. \\ \text{Remaynes}\ 33li.\ 17s.\ 06d. \end{array} \right.$$

Whereof received 05li. 0s. 0d.

Soe Remaynes 28li. 17s. 06d.

It[em] for my journey and paynes being out a fortnight with adventuring ye Mace to and from London ye Carriage of it and ye Boxe I leave to your consideracion.

DLXIV. *Mayor's oath at the Castle*

Hall Papers XIII, No. 135a. [1 Nov. 1650.] I Alexander Baker Maior of the Borough of Leicester shall and will well and faithfully observe and performe all and singuler the Anntient Customes Jurisdicions privilidges and preheminences of the Dutchie of Lancaster within the said Borough of Leicester, duringe the tyme of my now maioralty to my best knowledge and discretion Soe helpe me God.

[Oath administered by Mr Aston Town Clerk on warrant from Lord Grey of Grooby Steward of the Honour.]

DLXV. *Order from Parliament*

Hall Papers XIII, No. 17. [23 Dec. 1650.] To Mr John Somerfeild Maior of Leicester and all Justices there.

Accordinge to speciall directions from the Councell of State of the third day of December instant you are desired upon sight hereof presently to give order to the Constables Churchwardens and third

barowes in the severall divisions and wards of your Borrough to take away and deface the Armes and pictures of the late Kinge in all Churches Chappells and publicke places in your Borough before the sixth day of January next comyng accordinge to the Act of Parliament in that behalfe And there of (and of all such as make default therein) you are desired to make retorne to us at our meetinge here upon the vijth day of January next ensuinge, that a due account may be made and retorne there of to the Counsell of State by us

Tho. Beaumont
Will. Bainbrigge
Jo. Pratt
Edm: Cradock.

DLXVI. *Letters from Mr Wood the new Schoolmaster*

Hall Papers XIII, Nos. 31 and 32. [12?, 1650/51.] (31) * *
allthough I find many discouragements lying in my way yett trusting to a good hand of providence which I have found allways guiding me I intend to cast my selfe among you and lest my earnestness in pressing too much upon your towne should cast an odium upon mee and preiudice mee in my employment I will wave that proposition which I made to you and your brethren about composition for ye towne-borne children. * * I doe further desire that I may know ye certainty of ye rent that I shall pay for ye house. * * I would have all the house at my dispose leaving you ye liberty of the use of any or all ye roomes that I shall not necessarily employ att such times of ye yeare as ye Sheriffe shall have use of them My reason why I would have it all is because I could not have any inmate putt upon mee ye inconvenience of which I have had experience of elsewhere * * and further for expences of my remove I humbly do conceive that five pounds is an inconsiderable somme, and therefore I crave that in that you would enlarge yourselves and yett if you can remove mee and mine for it I shall be glad that you will husband it for mee to that end.

(32) I hope when you say that I shall have ye great house att ten pounds a yeare you speak inclusively as that ye rent of ye house which was formerly allotted to ye Scholemaster beeing lett out shall be part of that ten pounds.

[27 Jan: 1650/51. No. 46. Answer. Great house granted him according to the terms suggested in his letter.]

DLXVII. *Letter to the Mayor and Aldermen*

Hall Papers XIII, No. 52. [11 Feb. 1650/1.] Gentlemen. We doe earnestly desyre that you would be pleased to use your uttermost indeavor that wee may have Liberty to continue in our places at Leicester for the space of two or three monthes: in which tyme wee doubt not but the Lord will cleere his will and our way before us; and wee assure you that our not ingaging hitherto hath not issued out of any principle of opposition; but out of conscyence to Allmighty God. This wee shall take as a favor and shall rest

Youres in the Lord
John Angell
John Price.

DLXVIII. *Remembrances for Common Hall*

Hall Papers XIII, No. 34. [1 March 1650/1.] Whether the Hall thinke it necessarie to peticion the parliament against depopulacion in regard there is many feilds about inclosure.

DLXIX. “*Reasons against depopulacion and decaye of tillage*”

Hall Papers XIII, No. 65. [No date.]

1. Itt unpeoples ye Nacion, abates strength and courage
2. It ympoverisheth Citties, Borroughs and markett Townes
3. It makes many poore, Idle, and wanderers
4. Our grounde beinge a deepe Soyle that the wayes wilbe unpassable, as experiance in some allreddye appeares
5. This was the second Countye appointed by parliament to continue for tillage
6. The Countyes of Leicester and Northampton are as a Magazeene for Corne, both for the North and west
7. Depopulated townes, doe not serve the Comon Wealth with men, Horse, Carriages, or quarters for Souldiers by the decaye of tillage.

DLXX. *Meeting of the Twenty Four*

Hall Papers XIII, No. 28. [? 1650/1.] It is agreed that a letter be written to our Burgesses, by the Maior and Aldermen to acquaint them howe generally the farminge out of ye Excise in this Countye is disliked and to praye theire assistance for releife therein.

DLXXI. *Extract from a letter from M^r Maior (solicitor)*

Hall Papers XII, No. 750. [No date.] (Describes how he waited about trying to get business of fee farm rents seen to.)

But upon Fryday last in the afternoone I had a very good opportunity every way and had this inclosed order graunted which I could not gett drawne up signed entred untill the last night, and this day I attended the Commissioners at Worcester house with it where the same is allowed and a stopp made of those fee farme rents mencioned in the order, the other fee farme rentes that were made choice of beinge contracted for by purchasers whoe are to be preferred before Peticioners these with your owne fee farme rentes will come to a little more then the summe allowed and for the overplus the Corporacion are to be purchasors which wilbe but a small matter these are the best rentes that I could make choice of that are not as yet contracted for. I am to waite upon my Lord Gray upon Thursday morninge and in the afternoone the Committee have promised his lordship to meeete and give the buissines as speedy a dispatch as may bee.

DLXXII. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1649-1650**Other receipts.*

Item received of M^r John Maior, which he received of M^r Whalley of Northampton in parte of the Arreares due to the viccar of St Maries Leicester the summe of xvij*l*.

Item received of M^r [blank] Churchman by M^r Alexander Baker, beinge money geiven for the use of the poore of this Corporacion by divers gentlemen, as theire parte of the benevolence money. Collected towards the releife of the well affected, after the storminge of this Towne, the somme of CC*l*.

[Accounts defective; amounts not put down in some payments made to Bayliffe.]

Charitable gifts etc.

Item paid Joseph Bradley for two wheeles to spinn flaxe, for the use of the Bridewell keeper. vijs.

Item paid for Jacob Bottomleys booke, to be sent to the Councell of State to have theire dirrecion therein. [blank.]

Item paid to Thomas Cartwright joyner for mendinge two d[oors] in the parlor and one chaire and for takinge downe the late Kings Armes there vs.

Item paid for takeinge downe the late Kinges armes att the North gate. *js.*

Item paid for Mr Billers Mr Cradocke and the Towne Clerks man their charges to London, there and comeing downe and horse hire for Mr Billers and Mr Cradock, when they went to London, to obtayne the continuance of the Hospitall paie as appeares by bill. *xxiiij*l*. xvii*s.* jd.*

Item paid to John Turvile for the new mace waighinge 87 ounces and 12*d* besides screwes and pins and staffe att a *ijs.* per oz more then were made of the olde Mace as appeares by bill *xxxiiij*l*. xvii*s.* vjd.*

Item paid to the Messinger that brought the Acts to be openly published for the subscribinge the Engagement, and for the better orderinge of Papists and delinquents estates by order from Mr Maior and Justices. [blank.]

Item paid to Robert Cave, for lyme, haire, and workemanshipp to mend over the East gates, wheere the late Kings Armes were *iiijs. ijd.*

Item paid to foure women that searched Ann Chettle shee beinge suspected for a witch. [blank.]

Item paid for cole, Candle and Tobacco, for the Souldiers that watched the Artillerie that went into the North *ijs. jd.*

Item paid for beare and suger, att two severall tymes for a Captaine quarter masters, and other Souldiers that came to take upp quarters by Mr Maior and Aldermens appointment. *ijs. viijd.*

Item paid to the severall parishes for ringinge when the intelligence came that the Parliamente armey had given the great defeat in S[cotland] by the appointment of Mr Maior and divers Aldermen. [blank.]

Item paid to Roberte Mayes and William Stretton Carpenters and to seaven laborers for worke aboute mendinge the Revells Lane, leadinge to Margaretts Cowe pasture, by Mr Chapmanes direcciones the summe of *ij*l*. js. ix*d.**

Item given to the Clerke belonginge to the Commissioners that came downe to survaye the late Kings lands, and enquire after his revenue by order of Mr Maior and divers Aldermen. *xs.*

Item paid to Mr John Maior, more which he disbursed about obtaininge and settlinge the Hospitall paie, the yearly stipends of the Usher, and minesters for the said Hospitall, and the vicar of St Maries, and for the purchase money and for the deed from the trustees and for his paynes as appeares by his bills of Easter Terme 1650, Trinitie Terme 1650 and the Vacacion (amongst other things) *Lxxvij*l*. viij*d.**

Item paid for a pottell of Sack when M^r Maior and the Justices were att the Crane with Coll: Beamond and Coll: Temple concerninge M^r Oates imprisonment. [blank.]

Item paid for two quarts of Sack, given to Squier Grey and M^r Ward when they taught att St Margaretts October 28, 1649. iijs.

DLXXIII. *Remembrances for Common Hall*

Hall Papers XIII, No. 121. [Whit Monday, 1651.]

1. To acquaint them that Coventrie, Bristol and other places, have obtayned, an Act for theire Ministers paye and to advise with them, if they thinke it not convenient we doe endeavour the like for this Towne, and to leave it to the Maior and Aldermen for the prosecuting thereof.

3. To move that one of a House maye come to the Church on weeke daye lectures, accordinge to former orders.

DLXXIV. *Order to Constable*

Hall Papers XIII, No. 141. [10 Nov. 1657.] Forasmuch as it appeareth upon oath that Hugh Norman did upon the second day of November instant (beinge the lords day) contrary to severall Acts and Ordinances of Parliament carry burthens and doe worldly labor and worke These are therefore in the name of the keepers of the liberties of England by Authority of Parliament to will and require you and every of you forthwith to levy by distresse and sale of the offenders goods five shillings for the use of the poore rendringe the overplus and for want of distresse that then you sett the said Hugh Norman in the publique Stocks for the space of three whole houres and this shalbe your warrant.

[Fine mitigated to one shilling.]

DLXXV. "Decrees for ye free school at Leicester made at ye late visitation there November 14, 1651. By ye Mayor of Leicester and ye Master of ye Hospitall visitours"

Hall Papers XIII, No. 181. [14 Nov. 1651.]

1. That Christian authours both Greek and Latine, be brought into ye roome of prophane Such as Calvinis institutions and epistles for prose Minucius Felix and Sulpicius Severus for hystery Daport on Jobe and on ye Canticles for poetry.

2. That instead of those tymes, commonly called Christmas Easter and Whitsuntyde, ye schollers have every first week in every quarter, for recreation.

3. That ye head master have liberty to use that grammar and method in teaching which he finds most conducing to ye education and perfection of youth.

4. That at every visitation, ye head usher pose ye 3 first forms in Greek and ye Master pose ye Lower in Latine ; that judgment may be made, of ye sufficiency, and proficiency both of teachers and schollers and that ye Usher may be able to supply ye Masters Place in case of sicknes, and absence, and ye Master ye Usher.

5. That if ye Usher have any complaint against ye Master, or ye Master against eyther of ye Ushers, that such plainte be made only at ye visitation, that ye visiters, to whose cognizance such complaints properly belong, may heare and determine.

6. That if any Scholler shall presume to be so disorderly as to barr ye Master out of ye School, such schollers soe offending shall be expeld ye Schoole for ever.

Richard Lee Master of ye
new Hospitall.

DLXXVI. "Remembrances for Chamberlin Sherwyn"

Hall Papers XIII, No. 152. [18 Nov. 1651.] 2. To move Sir Arthur and Mr Person that Collonel Sanderson or his heires maye lett the Corporacion have the perquisites of the Courts Court Leets and all other things graunted to him which weere before in the Corporacion.

DLXXVII. *Letter to the Lord President [of the Council?]*

Hall Papers XIII, No. 149. [Nov. 1651.] Right Honorable. Our late lecturers place beinge voyd by refusinge the Engagement and the power of presentinge an other clerely devolved to your Lordshipps Hands ; though wee might fynd this our favor from your lordship to make choyce of one knowne to us yet consideringe on one hand how devided men are in theire principles affeccions and interests and thereby disabled from a free and comfortable eleccion of one everie waye suted to promote the designe of God in his word and worke : and on the other Hand consideringe how speciall the providence is that the disposinge of this place should wholly be in your lordshipps power of whose wisdome faythfullnes and integrity this Nation hath had so

precious and memorable testimonies we humbly conceave no better waye to be united amongst ourselves and in our ministery then by havinge one of your Lordshyps sendinge, wee shall not neede to tell your Lordshyp how much the glory of Jesus Christ in the Convertinge and subdueinge of soules how much the peace and welfaire not only of this Country but of this Comonwealth is concerned in an able gratioues and prudent ministery herd [sic] wee shall not add the Creddite of this place haveinge had so many singuler men in it, the numerousnes of people the competency and comfort of the maynten[ance] there beinge besides forty pounds and upwards with [a] convenient House kept in repaire etc. * * would please accordinge to your trust [*illegible*] promotion of the Confratorshipp to [*illegible*] meete minister for us And with what speed your greate affaires would permitt to dispatch him to us the God of Heaven soe direct your Harte and Judgement in this waigthy matter that wee maye playnely see his will in yours, and that he whom your lordshipp shall Command to us maye come in the fullness of the blessinge of the Gospel.

DLXXVIII. Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen

Hall Papers XIII, No. 174. [Dec. 25, 1651.] Agreed att this meetinge that the letter nowe read be sent to his Excellency to acquaint him of theire not agreeinge to the peticion directed to him in the name of the Aldermen Common Counsell and other Inhabitants in or neare the Borrough of Leicester.

[At this meeting, at which apparently all the members of the Twenty Four were present, 12 voted yes, 2 no and the others abstained.]

DLXXIX. Meeting of Mayor and the Twenty Four

Hall Papers XIII, No. 214. [Feb. 1651/2.] At this meetinge it is agreed and thought meete that the Inhabitants of the fower parishes —vicz Martius, margaretts maries and All Saints doe meete to nominate a minister for there respective parishes to be presented to the parliament for theire approbacion, and to certifie the Mayor and Justices of such choyce with what Conveniency maye be.

DLXXX. Voting at Common Hall

Hall Papers XIII, No. 198. [Feb. 9, 1651/2.]

“Whether they will thinke convenient to be continued and mayntained, Churches and Ministers in this Towne” } 41 votes for 4 Churches
13 for 3.

“Which parish they thinke convenient to be united to an other” } 3 votes for S. Maries
49 “ for S. Nicholas.

"What parish Church you thinke convenient to unite the parishe Church of S. Nicholas"	Unanimous vote for S. Maries.
"Whether you thinke convenient the Lecturer to have any thinge allowed out of the Augmentacion"	

23 for
29 against.

DLXXXI. Meeting of Mayor and "divers Aldermen"

Hall Papers XIII, No. 204. [Feb. 9, 1651/2.] Agreed that a Certificate to be drawne upp and sent to the Committee for Reformacion of the Universytes of the agreement accordinge to theire order, what parishes they thinke Convenient to be united, and howe they thinke Convenient the 200*l* Augmentacion graunted by that Honorable Committee to be distributed amongst the other ministers. And soe humbly praye that as well the said 200*l* Augmentacion maye be soe settled by Act of Parliament. And that the Inhabitants and lands in the Newarke in or neare the Burrough of Leicester be added to the parishe of Maries, as allso in the said Act there maye be power given to the Maior and Justices of this Burrough for the tyme beinge callinge 5 of everie parische to their assistance, to have power to taxe rate and assess as well a certayne sume upon the rents or true yearlye values of all Houses Shopps warehouses Cellers Stables, and all other land tene- ments and hereditaments whatsoever within the said Borrough and the sayd Newarke and all priviledged places with[in] the saide Borrough and Newarke (the Hospitalls excepted) the said taxe not to exceed 18*d.* per Annum in the pound. And where any person or persons shalbe knowne to employ a greate stock in trade, or have a greate personall estate then the sayd Mayor and Justices callinge 5 able men of that warde or parische to their assistance in the which the person or persons to be rated dwelleth, shall and maye have power to taxe and assess such person or persons for his or their stocke employed, or personal estate as aforesayd for everie 100*l.* 5*s.* and to be collected in manner for Bristowe Acte.

DLXXXII. Monthly meeting of Mayor and Justices

Hall Papers XIII, No. 136. [? 27, 1651.] Thomas Headley Junior and Joseph Headley beinge called to answeare for playinge att unlawfull games, confessed that, they did playe but one game a peece att shove grote vicz Thomas Headley att William woods and Joseph Headley att Dannett Pollards, and paide for fyne each 2*s.* 4*s.* upon mittigacions.

Ordered that Thomas Barse carrier of Kibworth which brought downe a woman and 4 children which came out of Holland shall take them upp to London againe and shall have 30s.

DLXXXIII. *Letter from Inhabitants of Newarke*

Hall Papers XIII, No. 199. [Feb. 20, 1651/2.] The Mayor had written "desireing our advise, and to knowe which of the sayd Churches or parishes we would be pleased to be annexed to, and what we would be willinge to be rated to pay to the Minister of that Church or parische to which wee should be annexed." * * Upon full Consideracion thereof by our generall consent wee have thought good to returne thus our answer, That wee have formerly contributed and given freely to their Ministers whom wee frequented that they have no occasion to doubt but wee shalbe as liberall hereafter, we haveinge voluntarly given much more then wee could proporcionably be rated at, And for beinge anexed to any particular parische or Church in Leicester we doe noe wayes approve of it, not knowing how farr wee may like or effect any particular Minister of any one Church or parische, and therefore desireing (as we hope is very Just and reasonable for us) to be free from beinge anexed to any Church or parische, and to make use of that Christian liberty generally enjoyed by every one, not to be tyed to any particular Minister or places which wee may and doe the rather claime and expect beinge in no parische and haveing purchased that small estate wee have in the Newarke at the dearer rate, because of our exemptions and freedoms confirmed by severall Acts and letters patents and there beinge noe reason for us to be rated to contribute to any Ministers in Leicester untill all the houses lands and hereditaments in Leicester, and in the severall parishes of Leicester have beene assessed and rated thereunto which wee believe will abundantly suffice for maintenance of their Ministers, and that there is neither law Justice nor equitye to drawe in exempted and privileged places to be rated with them for maintenance of their Ministers, untill they have rated all that lye in the said severall parishes and finde that they suffice not for raisinge therref.

John Whatton William Sherman Hugh Wattes
Thomas Wadland Thomas Bodle Henry Heminges
William + Freer Edmund Sutton.

DLXXXIV. *Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen*

Hall Papers XIII, No. 176. [? 1651/2.] Att this meetinge James Foxe beinge againe called and it beinge propounded to him whether he would accepte of his Office as Chamberlin of the Towne or paye his fyne of xxli. (?) did then accept off the Office and did take the oath appointed by Act and the oath accustomed for the Chamberlin and therefore the fyne is remitted.

DLXXXV. *Choice of Lecturer: Letter from Mayor*

Hall Papers XIII, No. 202. [Feb. 24, 1651/2.] Mr Lee did putt us upon it to make choyce of one ourselves assuringe us of his reddines, and that without doubt it would be accepted. I hope the setlinge Mr Pyke our Lecturer wilbe a speedy meanes of obtayning good Ministers and setlinge the Augmentacion and meanes for them, he beinge in such esteeme with the Lord Generall.

DLXXXVI. *Extract of letter to Committee on Universities*

Hall Papers XIII, No. 209. [No date.] It is thus humbly thought by them Convenient that Martins Church, Margarets Church, Maries Church, and All Saints Church in Leicester be supplyed with such able and godly ministers as by your Honors shalbe approved. And that the parishe of Nicholas in Leicester and the Inhabitants and lands in the Newarke in or neare the Borrough of Leicester be united and setled to the parishe Church of Maries Leicester And that the sayd CC*l.* maye be distributed in manner followinge to such Minister of Martins Church 6*l.* per Annum to such minister of Margretts Church 5*l.* per Annum to such minister of Maries Church 5*l.* per Annum and to such minister of the parishe of All Saints 4*l.* per Annum.

DLXXXVII. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1650-51*

[“Pest house in the Townes hands and soe the rent extinguished.”]

Item received of John Clarke vizt. for one close next Nurses water millne, lately purchased by Mr Ive of Mr Nurse and given by him to the Towne for charitable uses for one yeares rent. *vli.*

Item received of William Newton for one other close next to the sayd John Clarkes and allso bought by the sayd Mr Ive of Mr Nurse and given to the Corporacion for charitable uses for one yeares rent. *vijli.*

Freemen.

John Browne stronge water man, made free by consent of a Common Hall and paid for his fyne *ijjli. vjs. viijd.*

Other receipts.

Item received of Mr John Angell late Lecturer, in full of the *35li.* which the Corporacion formerly lent him—the sum of *xvli.*

Item received of the taxe for the Militia in the whole *lxvi. xvi. viii.*

Payments.

Rents of fee farmes and cheife and payd this to the Trustees for the Trinity Hospitall Leicester, and which were heretofore paid to the Crowne and sync to the Common Wealth of England, and were lately sould by the Trustees by order of parliament amongst other things towards the sayd Trinity Hospitall paye.

Charitable Gifts.

Imprimis paid to Mr Price and Mr Warde for prayeing on the weeke dayes in S. Martins Church for one whole yeare ended at Michaelmas last past being the gifte of Christopher Tamworth Eq^r deceased. *vjli.*

Item paid to the poore of ye parishes of S. Maries uppon St Thomas day in lewe of the *xli.* given by Mr Julius Billers the sum of *xs.*

Item paid to the under usher, old Hospitall, New Hospitall and poore of Martines and Maries beinge the guifte of Margarett Hobby widdow deceased, out of the rent of two houses in the Southgate *jli. ijs.*

Fees wages etc.

Item paid to Mr Thomas Blunt and others for theire teames and carts, to carry fower loads of ammunicion of the States to Loughborrowe *ijli.*

Item paid to James Redley for takinge downe the late Kings armes in the Towne Hall and for a peece of seelinge sett upp there *ijs. iiijd.*

Item paid to Thomas Chapman for washinge out the late Kings armes att the Towne Hall and Gainsborrowe *iijs.*

Item paid Thomas Todd to make up his quartridge for ringinge of a clock bell, by order of Mr Maior and Mr Stanley *ijs. vijd.*

Item paid for thirteeene staves for the Constables and the Biddles *vjs.*

Item paid for settinge the States Armes and Towne Armes upon the sayd knobs. viij*s.*

Item paid to the Sergeants and drummers when proclamacion was published against the Scots King. vs.

Item paid for beare given to the generalls army when they marched to Worcester, and to the brewers men and for dishes etc. by order. iiij*l.* iiijs. xjd.

Item paid John Turvile for exchanginge the old silver spoone for sixe new spoones iiij*l.* ix*d.*

Item paid Mr Mountney in parte of the money due to the Vicker of Maries iiij*l.*

Item paid Richard Palmer for waggenors charges that brought Ammunition for the armey. vijs. jd.

[List of taxes paid for the army.]

Item paid to the Inhabitants of Burton Overy, by consent of a Common Hall towards theire losses by fyre. vj*l.* xiijs. iiijd.

Item given to passe awaye Greenes wife to Fosell two severall times by order iijs. vjd.

Item paid Bartholomew Hunt for two horses to Warwicke and three horses to Coventry, for the States bussiness when the generall past by i*l.* iijs. iiijd.

Wyne and guiftes.

Item paid for wyne suger and nutmeggs when the Maior and divers Aldermen went to visitt Coll: Temple and Capt. Smyth att Mr Barnes xjs. iijd.

Item paid for a gallon of sack and a gallon of white wine and suger when the Maior and Aldermen tooke theire leavés of Mr Angell and Mr Price Feb. 22. xijs. viijd.

Item paid att severall times for wyne sent for the Hall and Gainsborrowe for Coll: Fairfax and divers officers and strangers as appeares by Mr Barnes his bill i*l.* xijs. vjd.

Item paid for a quart of sack to drinke with Coll: Hacker, when he came from Worcester fight. is. viijd.

Item paid for 2 gallons of Clarett, 2 gallons of white two gallons of sacke, three pound of Suger, and a bankett presented to the Lord Generall Cromwell when he went to Worcester. iiij*l.* xiiijs. ij*d.*

Item paid for wyne beare and tobacco att the Crane when the Mayor and divers Aldermen, went to speake with the Lord Grey about takeinge of horses charges upon the Towne, and about foote to be raysed att two severall tymes vjs. jd.

Item paid for a pottle of sack, a pottle of white wine, and pottle of clarett and for suger tobacco and pipes when the Maior and divers Aldermen went to visitt Coll: Hacker, there beinge divers gentlemen with him, as he went to Worcester xiiij*s.* ijd. ob.

Item paid for 3 oz of tobacco and pipes to the Hall when Coll Fairfax and Coll Hacker was there [blank].

Item paid for two gallons and 5 pints of sack, two gallons of white wine, two pounds of biskett and i*l.* of suger, when the Maior and Aldermen went to visett the Lord Grey att the Crane August 1651. ili. xiiij*s.* viij*d.*

Item paid for one gallon of sack one gallon of Clarett two gallons of white wine and for suger and bisketts, when the Maior and Alldermen went to visett Sir Arthur Haselrigg att the Crane. ili. ix*s.* viij*d.*

Item paid for a quart of sack given to the Lord Generalls quarter master at the Crane is. viij*d.*

Item for a quarte of sack given to Coll: Fairfax is. viij*d.*

Item paid for wyne and the Ministers dinners that kept the frydaie lectures and dayes of humiliacion as appeares by M^r Newtons bill. iiiij*l.* is. viij*d.*

Item paid for severall Ministers dinners and for wyne beare and tobacco when M^r Maior and divers Aldermen went and dined with them to entreathe theire supplyes for the Lords dayes, att Martins Church March 7th as appeares by bill. xvi*s.* iiiij*d.*

Item paid for severall ministers dinners and for wine beare and tobacco upon June 18 beinge a daye of thanksgivinge, and when M^r Maior and Aldermen dyned with them, and for the ministers charges which preached then as appeares by bill. ili. xix*s.* ijd.

Item paid when M^r Maior Coll: Fairfax and divers Aldermen went to dyne with the Ministers Sept. 28 and to intreate theire further supplyes att Martins Church as appeares by bill. ili. xvi*s.* viij*d.*

Item paid John Newton Clarke of Martins parishe for ringinge the Bell for Tamworth prayers by M^r Maior and M^r Stanleys order vjs. viij*d.*

Item paid for carriages to Warwick to carry awaye the Magazeene by speciall order xli. xs.

Item upon disbandinge the officers and souldiers raysed by our Towne by order xvli. is.

[Charge	892. 11. 11.
Discharge	887. 15. 11.
remag:	4. 16. 10.]

DLXXXVIII. Meeting of Mayor "and divers Aldermen"

Hall Papers XIII, No. 297. [June 22, 1652.] Ordered that Mr George Martyn one of ye Bayliffes for this Corporacion shall execute the writts belonginge to the Towne Court and that he maye take one to his assistance, and that Mr Beeby do not meddle with any profitte as Bayliffe, till he have performed his articles under his hand and seale to this Corporacion, or given satisfaccion to Mr Maior. Ordered that Mr Steward and his deputy shall have notice to direct all processes in the Towne Court to the Bayliffes of the Borrough of Leicester and theire deputye and not to one Bayliffe onely—and that the Town Clerke give them notice of this Order.

July 23, 1652 Ordered the money due to the Bayliffes from the Sergeants be deposited in the Town Clerkes hand till further order.

DLXXXIX. Examination before Justices

Hall Papers XIII, No. 301. [July 13, 1652.] Widdow Chamberline brewer paid to the use of the poore of Martins parishe and informer for her childe playeinge the last lords daye, the sum of xiid. accordiance [sic] of parliament.

To send a warrant to leavy xiid. of Easter Wikes for her sonn playeinge accordeinge to Ordinance afterwards shee paid 6d. fyne for Maries parishe. Elizabeth Wires the like paid 6d. as aforesaid Henry Peale paid to the use of the poore of Margaretts parishe for his childrens playeing.

John Davye paid for the lyke 6d. to the poore of Margaretts Thomas Lycorishe ordered to paye xiid. for ringinge contrary to ordinance or to be sett in the Stock Anthony Pole submittinge himselfe paid for the like 6d. maries parishe.

William Asson ordered to paye 6d. or to be sett in the Stocks accordeinge to ordinance of Parliament.

DXC. Meeting of Mayor and Commissioners

Hall Papers XIII, No. 341. [Sept. 1652.] Att this meetinge it is agreed and ordered that the Mayor for the time beinge and sixe of the Antients of the 24 as shalbe called are desired to advise with Mr Recorder and the Solicitor and to close with Mr Boome Concerninge the perquisites of the Courts felons goodes Court Leetes fello de se and colleccion of all the Rents granted to Collonel Sanderson within the lymittes of this Burrough.

DXCI. Meeting of Mayor and Justices

Hall Papers XIII, No. 380. [Nov. 25, 1652.] The informacion of Daniell Deakin Sayth that Mr John Norrice hath gone towards Bradgate in a pare of Shooes made of an old Hatt, and a pare of old Buskens or Corkers, and leaves them att one foxes house an Alehouse and there puttts on a pare of bootes or shooes and then goes to Bradgate House.

And that the said Mr John Norrice did the last Summer runn on foote with the gentlemen att Bradgate when they were Hawkin, and one of the gentlemen persevinge the said Mr Norrice to be weary did take him the sayd Mr Norrice upp behinde him on a white or gray Horse on the bare Horse or mare back amongst the gentlemen a Hawkinge.

And that the said Mr John Norrice did confesse to him the said Informant that the last Summer the said Mr Norrice did goe with some gentlemen from Bradgate ether into Chesheire or Lankisheire Sheire with his Curtell to make them merry and that they were very merry.

[No. 381. Nov. 22, 1652. Information against Mr John Norrice one of the Aldermen of Borough—Much the same.]

DXCII. Letter to Sir W^m Heyrick from the Mayor etc.

Hall Papers XIII, No. 424. [Jan. 18, 1652/3.] Wee are certified of your worthy resolucion in setlinge that worthy act which you have allreddy begun to our poore Hospitall * * * that is 20s. to the Mynister that preacheth the Annuall Sermon in the Newarke and 20s. to the poore, that Sermon hath occasioned an Annuall colleccion for the poore in that Hospitall of 10*l.* per annum or thereaboutes which is a great addicion to their releefe, and if that Sermon should faile it wilbe lost, Soe that if you please to doe this good worke it will much add to your former favours to that Hospitall for wee must acknowledge you were the sole instrument of the last establishinge of that ancyent foundation when it was in great danger to have beene dissolved or at lest to have contynued in such handes as formerly whoe made theire owne advantage out of it to the great hindrance of the poore.

DXCIII. *Petition of Edward Palmer*

Hall Papers XIII, No. 418. [No date.] Sheweth That the Peticioner being duly elected into the Office or Offices of Clerke of the Peace and Common Clerke of this Borough held the same six yeares or thereabouts to his much trouble and little advantage, in regard of the late unhappy civile and intestine differences and dissensions that happened in this nation By reason of which Office and Offices the Peticioner (only for his due observance of the then present Maior, or Maiors and not otherwise by the hard and unheard of practises of his undeserved prosecutors, sustained much damage tending allmost if not altogether to his undoeing as namely

1 by his imprisonment at London, and other charges impending thereupon *30li.*

2 by his undue sequestracion or fyne imposed uniuely and other charges following thereupon *40li.*

3 by his expulsion out of the Towne and other greate losses and chardges thereupon ariseing *50li.*

And after all these sufferings (for the supply of a distressed frend) wrested out of the said Office by the meanes of the then Governor and Committee of this Towne contrary to the knowne lawes, the intencions of the Parliament and of their Acts and Ordinances and of iust rights and priviledges of this Corporacion All which he humbly leaves to the sage and serious consideracion of this Assembly

And humbly prays to be restored to the said Offices * * or that hee may * * bee considered for the greate lossesses soe sustained as aforesaid And that whosoever hath done or shall supplie the said Office or may by your good Order bee injoyed to allow this Peticioner some yearely proporcion out of the profitts thereof both for the tyme past and to come, as in cases of such or the like nature he humbly conceaves hath bin, is and wilbe allowed.

The Peticioner is left to Lawe for remedy against those persons that did him wronge.

DXCIV. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 942. [Jan. 4, 1649/50.] It is agreed and ordered that the Corporacion shall take into their hands and keepinge the some of 200*l.* beinge the Remainder of the moneys collected for the relieve of such well affected persons of the Towne and County of Leicester as were ruynated att ye takeinge of this Towne by the Kings forces and to bee Employed for the use and benefitt of the poore of this Corporacion and the Corporacion to maintaine the stock.

Att the same meetinge it is agreed and ordered that 100*l.* the moyety of the said 200*l.* shall bee laid out in corne onely this yeare for the use and benefitt of the poore of this Corporacion whereof that Corne in Chamberlin Nobles hands to bee part, and to bee sold to them att such tymes and such rate as the Maior and Commissioners shall thinke fitt and the other 100*l.* the Corporacion to make use of as they shall thinke fitt and to allowe 8*l.* per Annum to the poore of the Towne till further order bee taken by ye Maior and Commissioners for the disposall of it some other way. Mr Speechley ys Chamberlin
* * * *

Att a Common Hall the 19th of November 1652 Mr Billers Maior. It is agreed and ordered that in consideracion of the Benevolence money in the Townes hands the poore of this Corporacion shall bee allowed out of the Towne stocke yearly fyve pounds to be paid on or about St Thomas Day till it bee otherwise disposed of for their benefitt.

Mr Speechleys Chamberlins Accompts

lent out upon bond	30. 00. 00.
lost by corne for ye poore	34. 13. 08.
and there is noe more to be found in all thacompts	
There hath beene 5 <i>l.</i> per annum paid to ye poore	
ever since Mr Bakers Maioralty	64. 13. 8.
lose by corne.	34. 13. 8.

DXCV. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1651-52*

[In payments under the head of "Chief rents and other rents paid" nearly all the sums are not put down.]

Fees Wages etc.

Item paid for Charles Sherwyns charges, and horse hier, to goe to Coventry to enquire of theire proceedings, for maintenance for theire Ministers 6*s.*

Item given to the Lord Presidents servants, when Mr Sherwyn delivered him a letter from Mr Mayor and Aldermen, for his helpinge us to a Towne Lecturer .5s.

Item paid for expences for Captain Billers and Mr Sherwyn, when they went to Hatfield to Mr Warren, from London att the Lord President's request 12s.

Item paid for horse hire for Captain Billers to goe to Mr Warren, in Essex to have obtained him to have beene our Towne Lecturer 6s.

Item paid for a dinner, for Captain Pratt, Mr Moore, Mr Hicklyn and Mr Coleman, when wee went to deliver the petition to the Parliament against depopulation 6s. 6d.

Item paid for five frames for the States Armes to James Redley £2. 10s. od.

Item paid Robert Bradshawe for blazinge the States Armes, att the Towne Hall the East Gate and the West Gate and for scowringe the Chimney peece and pictures, in the Towne parlor and Hall by bill £4. os. 8d.

Item expended when Mr Sherwyn went to Mr Syms, and so to London with a letter from the Corporacion to his Excellency the Lord Generall and his expences and Mr Syms to Leicester £3. 13s. od.

Item paid for expences of the Commissioners and witnesse att the Commission betweene Mr Wigley and the Towne as appeares by bill £8. 8s. od.

Item paid Mr Stoe for a post fyne, for the shoppes in the markett, and Gainsborrowe, and other things £1. 5s. 4d.

Item paid Mr Broome of Newarke, for Coll: Sanders, for arreares of the perquisitts of the Courts and other things due att Michaellmas 1652 £5. os. od.

Item paid Francis Motley for iron worke, and setting upp the States Armes att the two gates 4s.

Item paid him for coppieinge out Mr Symes two pattents' 2s. 6d.

Item paid him [Mr Aston] for coppieinge out twice, the draught of the Act of Parliament for the towne ministers maintenance, the one for the Lord Grey and the other for Mr Maior at Spring terme last 5s. od.

Wyne Guifts etc.

Item paid William Newton for 14 gentlemens dinners, and for wyne stronge beare and tobacco, att a dinner there upon the daye of thanksgiving for the great victory att Worcester, as appears by bill £4. 14s. 4d.

Item paid William Newton for 14 gentlemens dinners and fower others and for wyne stronge beare and tobacco, att a dinner upon the daye of thanksgivinge for ye regaininge of Leicester as appears by bill £3. 12s. 10d.

[Charges	746.	7.	9.
Discharge	761.	5.	7.
Due to Chamberl:	14.	17.	10.
Chamberl: have in their hands	3.	9.	3.
. . due to them	11.	8.	6.
Allowed them more	10.	2.	7.
. . due to them	21.	11.	2.]

DXCVI. *Trustees of Trinity Hospital*

Hall Papers XIII, No. 496. [May 18, 1653.] Ordered that Mr John Hooker be discharged from receivinge any of the Rents lately belonginge to the late Preceptory of Rothly and now amongst other things graunted towards the paye of the Trinity Hospitall Leicester which shalbe due from Michaelmas last.

DXCVII. *Letter from Francis Martin to the Mayor*

Hall Papers XIII, No. 518. [July 24, 1653.] Right Worshipful. Whereas upon iust complaynt by mee made to your Worshippes against his ungodly Sonne Edmund Martin yt seemed good in you with free consent of my selfe (for his wicked life and disobedience) to send him to a fitt place to repent himselfe in. By which meanes yf hee bee Contrite and brought to know himselfe and his duty towards mee and others, I and himselfe are and shall, or ought to praise god for the same: And further yf your Worshippes bee pleased this Morneing to send for him before you, and that you see remorse and pitty may bee had for his Amendment I shall againe receave him. Otherwise I leave him to your worships discretion further to punish.

(Postscript) My sonn hath beene out from Tuesdaii till Sunday laste aboute ii of the Clocke 2 or 3 dayes and nightes the weeke before and divers other tymes this twelfe month now and gon out of my house in the night and Come in at his pleasure and could never get him to make known in what Company he [went].

[519. Letter from Edmund Martin asking his father to speak to Mr Maior for his realease—"Deare father or Mother I desire to see you to night or elses I doe not know what to doe with my selfe by reason of my longe disstress."]

DXCVIII. Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen

Hall Papers XIII, No. 552. [Aug. 1, 1653.] Att this meetinge it is allso agreed and ordered, that Mr George Martyn, and Mr Edmund Johnson, both of the Company of the Aldermen or 24^t of this Burrough shall provide themselves each a black-gowne accordinge to ancient Custome, att or before the Tenth Daye of September next and to ware them att the next meetinge att the Towne Hall or els either of them to forfeite twenty shillings a peece, and for non payment thereof the Mayor is to Committ them or either of them to ward not performinge this order till they have Conformed to the same accordinge to an Order made in Mr Bakers yeare.

Sep. 16, 1653. Memorandum Mr George Martyn was then Committed to the parlor for not performinge the above mencioned ordere, and continued there till Mundaye followinge, and then in the after noone submitted and paid his fyne of xx.s. and xijd. to the mace bearer for his fee and was then dismissed.

Sept. 17 Memorandum Mr Edmund Johnson was then committed to the parlor for the like, and the same daye submitted himselfe and paid the said fyne and fee and was dismissed.

[Edmund Johnson was the Mayor next year.]

DXCIX. Meeting of Mayor and Justices

Hall Papers XIII, No. 575. [Oct. 11, 1653.] William Wayne late servant of Mr Dore being lunatick or distempered sent to bridewell to prevent mischeefe doeing by him.

DC. Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen

Hall Papers XIII, No. 567. [Oct. 13, 1653.] Att this meetinge its agreed and ordered, that the petition against depopulacion, nowe read and which was drawn by the Towne Clarke, shalbe faire ingrossed, and coppies written out, and hands to be gotten to the same, and then to be sent to London by Mr Moore Minister of Shearsby.

Mr Anthony Gilbert, and Mr James Foxe are desired to get subsciptions to the sayd petition through one parte of the Towne and Jonathan Cooke and Samuell Marshall are allso desired to doe the like for the other parte of the Towne.

[Hall Papers XIII, No. 605. Petition against Enclosure addressed to the "Supreame Authority of the Nation the Parliament of the Commonwealth of England." The MS is very defective.]

DCI. Meeting of Mayor and Justices

Hall Papers XIII, No. 566. [Oct. 19, 1653.] Ellen Tapley Spinster Informeth that John Hull fidler att Hinckley did Twoo dayes before Michallmas faire last, bringe a lybell in a songe in wrtinge against Generall Cromwell, and left it amongst the boulard schoolers att John Kings in Leicester where it hath beene often amongst them singed, and after it was by some of them conveyed to Robert Kings Schoole.

William Tapley Informeth the like.

Richard Tapley beinge demanded where he had the lybell he left with Mistress Brownes youngest daughter sayth that he had it from his children, and after he did shewe it to the said Mistress Brownes daughter, and shee desired him to lett her have a Copy of it which he did and shee gave him 4d. for it, and further sayth that John Fawscitt Sadler did right the Copy out and he gave him 2d. in drinke for wrtinge it.

[Richard Tapley and John Fawscitt sent to prison.]

DCII. Letter to John Pratt, M.P.

Hall Papers XIII, No. 590. [Nov. 22, 1653.] Sir there beinge lately a Commission sitten at Leicester touchinge Mr Lee the Master of Wigston Hospitall Leicester alias the Newe Hospitall and hearinge his continuance in the said place is in question and fyndinge the great benefitt that maye be (both to Gods glory and the good of the Towne and County) in setlinge an able man to be master there who shalbe a minister and take upon him the charge of one parishe Church in Leicester wee beinge in great want of ministers doe conceive ourselves obliged to acquaint you with our desires you beinge a member of Parliament for this County and our loveing friend our requests to you are that you would be pleased to intimate to us by this Messinger what you conceave concerninge Mr Lees removall and if he be removed where you would direct us to peticion for obtayninge our desires. And allso what you conceive if there should be Awditors Newe appointed for the Awditinge and certifieinge of the said Masters Accompts for the benifitt of the poore of the said Hospital.

DCIII. *Letter from Mayor Pratt concerning Mr Lee and the Hospital*

Hall Papers XIII, No. 610. [Nov. 26, 1653.] I must acquaint you that as yet there is noe setled way for the preferring of any petition of this nature, neither will it be reasonable untill Mr Lee his case be received into the Committee for peticions and by them reported to the house, (if they thinke fitt) only I must certifie you that the cases of all hospitalls are now by a late order of the house referred to the Committee for the poore whither you may apply yourselves when a seasonable opportunitie shalbe offered.

DCIV. *Meeting of Mayor and Justices*

Hall Papers XIII, No. 665. [Feb. 17, 1653/4.] Agreed and ordered then by the Mayor and Justices that the above said gownes yearly shalbe made upp by one Tayler, as in Mr Ives his life tyme they were, and that those that are not able to paye for the makinge and lyninge the Overseers of that parishe shall, otherwise such to be disposed on to others that will. And that there be two letters W. I. be sett upon each gowne sleeve, and every woman that will not constantly weare such gowne in such manner then they are not to have a gowne, but every such gowne is to be given to some other poore woman that soe will ware such gownes.

DCV. *Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen*

Hall Papers XIII, No. 554. [1653.] Att this meetinge Mr Maior did acquaint the Aldermen in every parishe, of the Act of Parliament for the Chewsinge of Registers in each parishe for the regestringe of marriages births and burialls, and caused the sayd Act to be openly read before them, and the Overseers of the poore and Churchwardens of each parishe then present.

DCVI. *Petition of "Cordwaynors"*

Hall Papers XIII, No. 570. [No date.] Wee whose names are underwritten free men of the Company of Cordwaynors of the Borough of Leicester doe humbly Certifie to your Worships that there are Fower Curriors which are freemen of this Borrough and which are sufficient to doe and supply the worke of this Towne, And that there is noe wannt or neede of any stranger or farowner here.

[603. Petition of James Foxon Citizen and Currier of London for freedom. 604 declaration of Cordwaynors Company that they consent to freedom being granted to Foxon.]

DCVII. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1652-53**Other receipts for this yeare.*

Item received of Thomas Walker for one yeares rent of the land att Allexton beinge parte of M^r Haynes guift £24. 0. 0.

Other receipts.

Item received of William Callis, for his fyne for not standinge Chamberline £10.

Fees Wages.

Item paid M^r Symes the Towne Lecturer for his yeares stipend due att Michaellmas last £40. 0. 0.

Item paid M^r Symes, by order of the Trustees for the Trinity Hospitall, which was in the Townes Hands, due to him as Preacher to the said Hospitall, March 25, 1652 the summe of £5. 0. 0.

Item paid two watchmen, for watchinge the free school and hanginge on the doore againe 4s. 10d.

Item paid for horse hire, for M^r Aston, and M^r Turvile, to Sir William Hericks about his settlinge £40 for the continuinge of the Sermon on Whisson Mundaye at the old Hospitall 3s. od.

Item paid for repairinge that parte of S^t Maries Church belonginge to the Corporacion, as appeares by bill £5. 11. 2.

Item paid Robert Carr for mendinge the rope of the great waights att the Towne Hall 6d.

Item paid Hugh Dawes and Hartshornes Sone, for publishinge the tryall of the souldier, that killed the Carrier neere Mountsorrell 2s. od.

Item given to a converted Jew, by M^r Mayor and Justices order £1. 0. 0.

Item paid to John Parker, given by the Corporacion towards the repaire of Cole Orton Church, by order of the Mayor and Justices. £2. 0. 0.

Item paid to M^r Boodman, beinge a free guifte by the Corporacion to those att Crayson, that had loose by fyer, by order £5.

Wine and guifts.

Item for a pottle of Canary, and for ale and breade when M^r Mayor and ye^e Commissioners looked out the Charters, to goe to London, they beinge sent for thether by a Committee of Parliament 4s. 8d.

*Item paid for 13 gentlemens dinners, and sixe others, and for wyne
stronge beare and tobacco, att a dinner upon the daye of thanksgivinge
for the regaininge of Leicester as appears by bill £2. 12. 0.*

DCVIII. *Grievances of Wigston Hospital*

Hall Papers XIII, No. 763. [No date.]

1. Oathes Imposed on the Confrater and poore of the said [Hospitall] by the orders thereof which are burdensome to ye consciences which they humbly conceive are not agreeable to Scrip[ture] Rules and in some things inconsistent with the present government.

2. The unequall distribucion of the Mannor and lands of the said Hospitall and the Revenue thereof being worth 1200*l*i by the yeare att ye least and that 200*l*i by the yeare or thereabouts Received and employed for maintenance of the said Hospitall.

3. The many unreasonable Leases of the Hospitall lands upon small yearly rents, and the present danger of more unprofitable leases thereof to bee Renewed which obstructs much good as might severall ways come with advantage to the Hospitall and the Towne of Leicester according to the charitable Intencion of the Founder.

4. The greate preuidice ariseing to ye Hospitall by the Masters non residence as not surveying their lands theis many yeaeres fewe perfect Terrars thereof Soe as it is feared much of their land is in danger to bee lost To prevent which and many other Inconveniencyes the vigilant Eye of the Master is very necessary whoe hath therefore allowed to him some provisions for housekeepinge and meanes to keepe 2 gueldings that hee might keepe hospitality and attend the necessary affaires of the Hospitall according to the orders thereof.

5. Noe Audittinge or makeing up the yearlye accompts of ye Hospitall for 5 yeaeres last past whereas the orders require an Audit and accompt to be made upp and entered every yeare.

6. The evidences of the Hospitall not kept in good order but carried abroad and many of them missinge when they should bee used and have beeene desired in the Hospitals behalfe [*illegible*] employinge of the same for the benefitt of the said Hospitall and the poore therein according to the orders and good intencion of the Founder thereof.

For redresse thereof and of all other their grievances they humbly pray that accordinge to the orders and custome of the Hospitall there may bee a Visitacion by some Godly and Judicious person speedily

authorised by Commission to examine and certify the state of the said Hospitall as to these and all other grievances and what they finde requisite in the premesses and that in the meantime a present stay may be made of Renewinge Leases and that all things may be speedily putt into a more sure and Righteous way to the honour of God incouragement of the like charitable workes and greate benefitt of the poore of the said Hospitall and the Towne of Leicester according to the Founders intencion and the orders in that behalfe subscribed by the Confrater and the poore.

DCIX. Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen

Hall Papers XIII, No. 706. [May 5, 1654.] Att this meetinge it is Ordered to Call in the Overseers of the Highwayes and the Overseers of the poore to morrowe of everie parische to Come to be sworne Accordinge to An Ordinance of his highnes the Lord Protector.

DCX. Election of Burgesses

Hall Papers XIII, No. 751. [July 12, 1654.] The free and open choice of Burgesses to serve in Parlyament for this Burrough was then had and made according to the Constitucions of this Commonwealth of England by vertue of a certaine Precept in that behalfe in manner and forme followeinge/that is to say.

M ^r Edmund Johnson Maior chooseth	1 {Sir Arthur Hasilrigg 1 {M ^r William Stanley
M ^r William Stanley	2 {Thomas Lord Grey
M ^r Richard Ludlam	2 {Sir Arthur Hasilrigg 2 {Colonel Francis Hacker
M ^r Edward Cradocke	2 {M ^r William Stanley 3 {Sir Arthur Hasilrigg
M ^r Dannet Abney	3 {M ^r William Stanley 4 {Sir Arthur Hasilrigg
M ^r Thomas Blunt	4 {M ^r William Stanley 5 {Thomas Lord Grey
M ^r John Somerfield	5 {Sir Arthur Hasilrigg 6 {Sir Arthur Hasilrigg
M ^r Alexander Baker	4 {M ^r William Stanley 6 {Thomas Lord Grey
M ^r Edward Billers	6 {M ^r William Stanley 7 {Sir Arthur Hasilrigg
M ^r Samuell Wanley	7 {M ^r William Stanley 8 {Sir Arthur Hasilrigg
	8 {M ^r William Stanley

M ^r John Clay	9 { M ^r William Stanley { M ^r Cornelius Burton
M ^r Robert Blunt	9 { Sir Arthur Hasilrigg
M ^r Daniell Deaken	10 { M ^r William Stanley { Thomas Lord Grey
M ^r Thomas Henshawe	{ M ^r James Winstanley
M ^r Thomas Stringer	{ Thomas Lord Grey
M ^r William Francke	{ M ^r James Winstanley
M ^r Francis Noble	10 { Sir Arthur Hasilrigg
M ^r Cooke	11 { M ^r William Stanley { Colonell Francis Hacker
M ^r George Abney Chamberlin	12 { M ^r William Stanley { Sir Arthur Hasilrigg
M ^r Thomas Somerfield	13 { M ^r William Stanley { Thomas Lord Grey
M ^r Richard Palmer	14 { M ^r William Stanley { Sir Arthur Hasilrigg
William Cooke	15 { M ^r William Stanley { Sir Arthur Hasilrigg
Thomas Pippen	16 { M ^r William Stanley { Thomas Lord Grey
M ^r Warberton	17 { M ^r William Stanley { Sir Arthur Hasilrigg
M ^r Foxe	18 { M ^r William Stanley { Thomas Lord Grey
M ^r Nicholas Sherwin	19 { M ^r William Stanley { Sir Arthur Hasilrigg
M ^r Turvile	20 { M ^r W ^m Stanley { Sir Arthur Hasilrigg
Awden Reanor	21 { M ^r William Stanley { Sir Arthur Hasilrigg
M ^r Richard Coleman	22 { M ^r William Stanley { Thomas Lord Grey
Jonathan Cooke	23 { M ^r William Stanley { Sir Arthur Hasilrigg
M ^r Lincolne	24 { M ^r William Stanley { Sir Arthur Hasilrigg
M ^r John Norrice	25 { M ^r William Stanley { Sir Arthur Hasilrigg
Edward Hunt	26 { M ^r William Stanley { Thomas Lord Grey
William Allsopp	27 { M ^r William Stanley { Sir Arthur Hasilrigg
Robert Buxton	28 { M ^r William Stanley { Thomas Lord Grey

Edward Palmer	25	{Sir Arthur Hasilrigg
Philip Abney	31	{M ^r William Stanley
[blank] Ludlam	26	{Sir Arthur Hasilrigg
	32	{M ^r William Stanley
Daniel Smith	27	{Sir Arthur Hesilrigg
	33	{M ^r William Stanley
William Awger	28	{Sir Arthur Hesilrigg
	34	{M ^r William Stanley
William Brookes	29	{Sir Arthur Hesilrigg
	35	{M ^r William Stanley
William Ward	30	{Sir Arthur Hesilrigg
	36	{M ^r William Stanley
Francis Elliott	31	{Sir Arthur Hesilrigg
	37	{M ^r William Stanley
Samuell Wanley	32	{Sir Arthur Hesilrigg
	38	{M ^r William Stanley
Samuell Marshall	33	{Sir Arthur Hesilrigg
	39	{M ^r William Stanley
Robert Spence	34	{Sir Arthur Hesilrigg
	40	{M ^r William Stanley
	35	{Sir Arthur Hesilrigg
	41	{M ^r William Stanley

DCXI. *Quaker Prisoner's letter*

Hall Papers XIII, No. 770. [Jan. 26, 1654/5.] Read with patience that thou may Understand. Friend thou who professeth thyselfe to be a Christian Magistrate And the Scripture and the Lawe of the Natyon to be thy Rule, search it and see where thou hast one example amonge all the Saynts of God to command any to putt off their hatts that came before them, Did ever Moses or Josuah, or Jeptha or Sampson * * or did ever David or Solloman or Hezekiah who were Kings of Israel command any to putt off their hatts * * or did ever * * Herod, Pilate Phelix or any of the Heathenish Kings or governors command any to putt off their hatts that came before them or Imprison them if they did not. Now Seeing that none of these ever commanded any to doe it, nor the Lawe of God, nor the lawe of man commande any to doe it what cans't thou pleade for it but thyne owne will. * * And whereas thou sayest the Lord Protector hath sett thee in thy place and thou will not suffer him to be abused, I answer, neither him nor thee doe I abuse, But I say unto thee take heed of abuseing thy power, which thou sayest thou hast from him for from him thou hast noe such Lawe, the Lord Protector himselfe doeth not imprison any for comming before him with their hatts on; for a deare friend of myne went before him not longe since with his hatt on and soe stood

before him, and he would not suffer those that were with him soe much as to question him for it Notwithstanding their desire to that purpose.

* * Thus have I cleared my Conscience in the presence of God (And if I have transgressed the Lawe of the Natyon lett me suffer for it). * * The light in my conscience which calls for justice and equity will witnesse me to have declared the Truth. * * By one who is a lover of thy soule; a servant to the Truth and a subject to the Power that is of God And therefore suffer imprisonment for Conscience sake knownen to the world by the name of John Whitehead who shall through the strength of my God Rather give my body to be starved in prison then deny the faith and soe sin wilfully against the light of Christ in my Conscience. * * From the Prison where thou hast putt me the 26th of the 10th moneth 1654.

DCXII. Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen

Hall Papers XIII, No. 795. [Jan. 10, 1654/5.] Forasmuch as John Beeby Gentleman Bayliffe of this Borough did neglect his Office in not apearing att the Court of Record held for the said Burrough att the Guild Hall there on Munday last Therefore for that and divers other misdemeanors and miscarriages concerning the said Office It is agreed and ordered that the said John Beeby shall bee from henceforth suspended from the execucion of any Process of the said Court And that all Processe of the same Court shall bee from henceforth directed unto the chiefe Serjeant at Mace of the said Burrough and to his Deputy or Deputies in that behalfe and this to contynue till further order.

DCXIII. Declaration of a freeman

Hall Papers XIII, No. 839. [Feb. 24, 1654/5.] I Richard Woodrave in Consideracion of my freedome doe hereby in the presence of Mr Maior undertake and promise to him that I will from tyme to tyme and att all tymes hereafter during the naturall life of William Slater my Father in law att my owne cost and Charges maintaine or cause to be maintained him the said William Slater, to the uttermost of my power without being chargable to the Burrough of Leicester or to any parish thereof Given under my hand the foure and Twentyeth Day of February 1654.

DCXIV. *Petition of Bartholomew Moore*

Hall Papers XIII, No. 728. [No date.] Sheweth that your petitioner hath for the space of 5 yeares last past performed the hard and toylsome service of foot post from Leicester to London, and from thence to Leicester againe every weeke, being more then was ever yet done by any other man in England, and dureing all the said 5 yeares your petitioner never miscarried in his journeys and returnes above 3 or 4 tymes for the last whereof your worshipps have conceived such displeasure against your poore petitioner as that you have with holden from him that weekly exhibicion which you were pleased formerly to allowe him for his incouragement and better support in his hard and laborious course of life and have been pleased alsoe to putt another man upon the imployment which your petitioner hath soe longe performed. Now ye most humble request of your poore petitioner is that you please to restore unto him your Worshipps wonted favour and allowance and your Countenancing of him in his difficult imployment.

[Granted during pleasure.]

DCXV. *Protest of Quaker*

Hall Papers XIII, No. 769. [Oct. 26?] Oh man consider what thou hast done against the servant and Messenger of the Lord Jesus Christ, that came to doe the will of the Lord in declaringe and laying open the deceits of those that say they are ministers and are not, as by their fruits doth appeare. Who cannot by Scripture from the example and practise of Christ and his Gospell ministers, noe wayes prove their practise, but nowe that the Lord sends to trye their Spirits, by the Word and Spirit, which is the Saints Rule, they flee and will not stand the tryall, soe fullfillinge that Scripture, the hireling flees because they are hirelings And now that they are discovered to bee in deceipt they have no wayes to uphold their ministries but by persecution, which is cleane contrary to Christ and the Gospel ministers who never persecuted nor caused any to be persecuted nor put in prisons, but the hireling priests did persecute and Imprison. And these priests now are found in the steps of such as persecuted the profetts Christ and his Apostles. * * Couldest thou not have put the priest upon the prooef of his Ministerie and letten the Sperrits have beene tryed. And that would have been Justice. But to shut up in prison A deare servant of the Lord for doinge the will of his heavenly father And to

imprison One that for Conscience Sake could not putt of his hatt to thee,
 Oh Wicked Pride, Haman is thy way And the end of thy profession
 is accursed who hath Imprisoned the poore Innocent Lambs of Christ;
 what a Pitylesse Wretch art thou? but greater will thy torment bee
 that art the transgressor. * * Woe is thy portion and Vengeance
 is thy reward, and the light of God in thy conscience which beares
 Testimony against Sin and Condemnes thee in Secrett will witness
 what I say; for there is no peace to the Wicked * * and untill
 Thou lett the Innocent goe free thou wilt bee in Torment; therefore
 Repent and Consider

from A friend to thy Soul,

26th day of 10 moneth.

R. F.

DCXVI. Petition of Poor of Trinity Hospital

Hall Papers XIII, No. 816. [No date.] Sheweth that whereas
 your Peticioners for a good space last past have beene destitute of a
 Pott for the boyling of their pottage. And understanding that there is
 a great Pott belonging to the Towne which hath Laied for a longe
 tyme uselesse

Your Peticioners therefore humbly beseech your Worshipps to
 afford them the use of the said Pott untill such tyme as the
 Corporacion shall have occasion to make use thereof.

Granted for a twelvemoneth.

DCXVII. Trade Regulation

Hall Papers XIII, No. 819. [No date.] It is ordered that if any
 freeman of this Towne shall at any time hereafter voluntarily carry
 any wares or goods to any Country village or other places except
 Markett Townes and shall there erect any stall or shop or expose any
 goods to sale within the County of Leicester shall pay to the poore
 of the Corporacion xxs. for every such default the same to be levyed
 by distress and sale of the offenders goods by warrant from the Maior
 for the tyme beinge to the Chamberlins and Constables directed and
 this order to be perfected by the Towne Councell.

DCXVIII. Petition of Soldier for freedom

Hall Papers XIII, No. 821. [No date.] Sheweth That whereas
 your Peticioner hath for many yeares last past beene a Souldier in
 Captain Hubbards Troope And is now resolved to settle himselfe in
 this Corporacion. * * And although he hath a large priviledge (as
 hee conceiveth) by force of a late Ordinance of his Highnesse the Lord

Protector to use or exercise any Trade in any City or Burrough having
beene soe longe a Souldier as aforesaid, yet he is not resolved to rest
altogether upon that

But humbly beseecheth your Worshipps * * to admitt
your Peticioner to become a freeman of this Corporacion.

Granted paying 5*li* fyne.

[Hall Papers XIII, No. 261. Petition of another Parliamentary Soldier "not of any trade or mistery" granted, fine £10.]

No. 469. Soldier, who is a Blacksmith by trade, granted freedom for 10/-.]

DCXIX. *Petition of John Turlington Sergeant*

Hall Papers XIII, No. 832. [No date.] Sheweth that your Peticioner was employed by the freemen of this Burrough for the informacion against William Deane for selling of Wolling Cloth which he was never Apprentice to that Trade of the Wollen Draper, whereupon the said William Deane was indited upon Tenn Inditements And att the Sessions he refused to stand to try the Suite, but did rather submitt to the Bench, and they did award him to pay Tenn pounds, Whereupon hee hath paid the said Tenn pounds to the Chamberlins for the use of this Corporacion.

Your peticioner therefore humbly beseecheth your Worshipps to take the premisses into your serious Consideracion towards the paines taking in this businesse to allowe some meanes for your Servant in this behalfe, who hath by his diligence brought soe much money to the Towne without charge And your Servant is and wilbe bound to perfore his service to the utmost of his power to execute his Office and in duty bound shall daily pray etc.

DCXX. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1653-54*

Fees Wages etc.

Item paid to the Company of Weavers out of the fyne of Thomas Farren being a stranger made free £2. 10*s.* 6*d.*

Item paid to Bartholomew Moore for carryinge a letter to the Generall about the setting up a lybell on the Church dore 6*d.*

Item paid to the Generall sextons of the severall parishes for ringing on the day the Lord Protector was proclaymed by order from M^r Mayor. 13*s.* 4*d.*

Item paid for a copie of the High Sheriffes writt for the eleccion of Burgesses in Parliament. 2*s.* 6*d.*

Item paid to the Messengers that went to Nosesy when Sir Arthur Haslerigg was chosen a Burgess 5*s.* 6*d.*

DCXXI. *Calendar of Prisoners*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 91. [March 26, 1655.]

In prison {for stealinge a peece of searge stiffe out of ye
 Richard Hales, {shopp of one Richard Noone of the Burrough
 aforesaid Mercer burnt in ye hand and ordered
 to be sent home with a passe.

DCXXII. *Letter from Mr Lee*

Hall Papers XIII, No. 873. [June 2, 1655.] Mr Maior * * I promised you that if you and ye Corporacion would provide and nominate a person I should judge fit I would approve of him and in case I should nominate you should inquire and satisfy yourselves. I added that Mr Wright of Thurkiston had promised to meet mee * * at London and to treat with ye Ushers of the Charterhouse and Westminster Schoole In ye interim Mr Wright your Minister promised me to keepe ye Scholars togeather Mr Wright came not Soe as I am free from that engagment As to my promise to you I am ready to make it good. It sufficeth that you did and doe acknowledge ye undoubted and uninterrupted powr of my place to present a School-master confirmed by ye Uniform and constant practice of my predecessor * * I doe verily approve of him who you have provided to be Schoolmaster in ye roome of Mr Wood * * I think by ye Ordinance of my Lord Protector for getting Ministers and Schoolmasters I must present him you nominate to ye Commissioners at White Hall for ye approbation, which I shall be ready to doe. * * Mr Angell by his Attorney hath demanded all that money I received for ye yeare 1651; at Mr Sollicitors Ellis Mr Archer and Mr Berry of Granthame that for the Controversy was referd to My Lord Bradshaw. All agreed that Mr Angells Patent was not made voyd by ye Order of ye Council, I was yet in beeing, offring to resign it to mee. My Lord Bradshaw required of mee an accompt of 44*l*s** etc. received for that year. I gave him an accompt, amongst other particulars, tenne pound payd to Mr Sherwin (then Chamberlin of Leicester) who from the Mayor (Mr Baker) demanded some of these moneys in consideracion of ye charg ye Town had bin at supplying Mr Angells place and in sending Mr Sherwin to treat with Mr Warren, Mr Sims and others I yeilded to let him have 16*l*s**. Let him give accompt how he disburse it. * * Now my Lord Bradshaw upon some days hearing decreed that ye 10*l*s** payd to ye Chamberlaine of Leicester be payd to Mr Angell ye six pounds allowd Mr Sims be payd by mee to Mr Angell and Mr Sims be accomptall for

my rent and whereon I demanded *4li.* for my own charges I have nothing allowed but must make up Mr Angells summe *20li.* The rest of the salary due to Mr Angell by the Lord Bradshaws award is allowed mee upon my account for those Ministers and your charges I provided and treated with. Thus Sir an accompt is made and given and allowed of that moneys Mr Baker, when Mayor made see after a day to and desired an accompt of. * * Mr Berry of Grantham offerd to resign Mr Angells Patent to mee the Lord Bradshaw, Mr Solliciter Ellis, Mr Archer all agreeing it was not voyd by ye order from ye Council, but suspended. I shall doe nothing further in it till I heare from you further. * * We are hasting a just visitation I hope you will find my actions justifiable before God and good men. * * Sir my great business at London is to obviate ye underhand, sinister ways of men to compass ye ends by. I say my busyness is to procure a Legall, open Visitation by Process authorised by Law and ye Statutes of ye Hospitall. Resolved I am * * to give a reason of all my actions in order to my Place and afterwards to mentayne both ye priviledges and rights of [our] Corporacion, which stands upon ye same foot of Law with your and my own property, which Law hath made and will protect I have this to add how glad I should bee to be quiet in that estate God hath given me amongst you.

DCXXXIII. Meeting of Mayor and Justices

Hall Papers XIV, No. 2. [Oct. 12, 1655.] It is agreed that Twenty Shillings shall bee forthwith paid by the Chamberlins out of the Chamber of the Towne unto Anastatius Comnenus a Macedonian who was lately taken prisoner at Angier towards the raiseinge of a Ransome for himselfe and his fellowe Captives.

DCXXXIV. Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen

Hall Papers XIV, No. 23. [Nov. 5, 1655.] It is agreed that Mr John Maior shall forthwith sue out a Quo Warranto in the behalfe of the Corporacion against Thomas Sturges Mercer and Richard Mills of Enderby for setting upp a Markett att Whetson in this County and that the charge of the same suite shall bee borne by the said Corporacion.

It is also agreed that an Accion shall be presently brought by Mr Francke against one Abaray Waite of Gainsborowe widow and such others as Councell shall advise for takeing toll of the said Mr Francke att Gainsborowe, which suite shall be prosecuted by Mr John Maior the Townes Solicitor att the charge of the Corporacion.

DCXXV. *Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 59. [Feb. 1, 1655/6.] Agreed that a Letter shall bee sent tomorrowe to Mr Moore to entreat him to write to Mr Kirke to desire him to come over on Tuesday next that wee may treate with him concerninge his goeing to London to assist us against the Inclosures and that the messenger that goeth to Mr Moore shall goe from thence to Mr Yaxley with another letter to the same purpose to knowe whether he can be here or not on Mundaye and to desire Mr Moore to meete them here on Tuesday morning.

DCXXVI. *Letter to Rev. Mr Moore of Shearsby*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 64. [No date.] Good Mr Moore, I have according to the Maior Generalls direccion sent you herein inclosed a List of the names of divers Townes and Lordshipps in this County as exactly as I could in soe short a tyme. All or the greatest part whereof were formerly greate Townes and places of husbandry and tillage some of them maintayning tenn some Twelve some sixteene and some Twenty Teames and upwards and now inclosed and depopulated Soe that in most of them there is not any tillage nor one Teame kept and in the best of them not above one or two att ye most. I could send ye names of divers other Townes and Lordshipps Inclosed and Depopulated, which being added to these within named would amount to above the Third part of the County just halfe besides many others now goeing in. These things I have sent you by the approbacion of Mr Stanley, Mr Ludlam, Mr Cradocke and Mr Baker who desire to be kindly Remembered unto you desireing you to present this inclosed paper speedily to the Maior Generall together with our humble service And soe with my true respects to yourself and Mr Yaxley etc.

S. M. M.

DCXXVII. *Petition to Parliament against Enclosure of land*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 89. [No date.] To the Parliament of the Common Wealth of England The humble Petition of the poorer sort of the Commonalty in the Countys of [blank] Sheweth That your petitioners observing with thankfullness to almighty God the faithfull vigilancy of this present Parliament in preserveing the ship of this Common Wealth from a totall wrack in a time of eminent danger And the unweareid endeavours to repaire the breaches, not onely by manageing the sword of war with greate successe abroade, but allso by establishing lawes for equall Justice within

the Nation; togeather with the regulateinge of trade and support of trafficke and mutuall Commerce to the advantage of the poorer sorte. And observeing that this present Parliament hath still a watchfull eye and open eare to heare and redresse the Common greevances of the Nation: your petitioners with much confidence, present to your Consideracion one great occasion of the Increase and cry of the poore amonqe us, and an impediment to common commerce and traffique which arise from many discords and Abuses both in Intercommoning and Inclosinge of Common feilds amonqe us. By Incloseinge (which is now very frequent) there being within these two yeaeres within these two Countys at least [blank] townes taken in and inclosed and many other Townes agitateing thereof. Tillage doth daylie decay whereby many of the Inhabitants are constrainyd either for want of worke, or through cruelty of Landlords to fly to other places and especially to markett townes, whereby they are not onely opprest with multitude of poore, but disabell to mainetaine them through the decay of the markett, and traffique; unto which there is further obstruction of mutuall traffique added by this Inclosure of Common feilds: that the highwayes become impassable for travellers. Neither is the way of intercommoninge without its great disorders to the Publique dammage: for where as noe order can be made to regulate the Comon but by the Joynt consent of all the Intercommoners; It comes to pass by ye ignorance of some, and willfulnes or mallice of others, that seldome or never anie good orders can be maid: soe that the Commons being over stinted, much ground is depastured to little benifitt, sheepe are rotted the corne destroyed with Cattle, trespasses multiplied, and differences amonqe neighbours dayly fomented, which occasion many to thinke of Inclosure as the onely Remedy for such diseases which as it is managed by some persons proves both the overthrowe of their families which doe attempt it, and the apparent damninge of ye publike.

For redresse whereof your petitioners doe humbly offer to the Consideracion of this Parliament

That their might be power granted to some worthy gentlemen true freinds and patriots of their Countys good (In the nature of a Corporacion) to Regulate the disorders of husbandry both in Incloseing and Intercommoning Soe that noe towne in Common may be Inclosed without approbation of the said Corporation upon Just and satisfying grounds that the Inclosure shall not prejudice the publike. And that all good orders for the benifit of Intercommoninge, being approved by the said Corporation may be settled and confirmed though the Consent of all intercommoners did not.

And that the said Corporation may have power to keepe Records of towne orders to send for and punish transgressors, and to heare grievances betweene partie and party that concerne the present busines: whereby the trade of Husbandry the cheife trade (as wee conceive) in this Nation may be equally ballanced, ordered and supported, as well as other trades are.

And we shall ever pray etc.

DCXXVIII. Common Hall

Hall Papers XIV, No. 68. [Feb. 22, 1655/6.] Agreed that noe freeman of this Burrough that liveth in the County [*illegible*] from henceforth bind any apprentice before the Maior of this B[urrough] Nor shall have power to make any man free of this Burrough of any Trade whatsoever. And the Maior for the tyme beinge is from tyme to tyme desired to take notice hereof and to see this Order exactly observed, and [obeyed].

DCXXIX. New Waterworks proposed

Hall Papers XIV, No. 69. [Feb. 26, 1655/6.] Hee will bringe the water to the Crosse att the charge of the Towne, and they to have the benefitt els not.

He sayth it is about 500 yards that the water is to come in case it cannott be brought through the Castle Orchard.

Hee sayth it will cost 400*l* and not much more.

Hee must have an Engine att the Castle Mill which must be filled by the helpe of a Wheele and the Mill Damme.

Hee saith it will take up halfe a Mill water which must goe 5 hours in a day.

DCXXX. Petition of poor of Trinity Hospital to the Justices of the County

Hall Papers XIII, No. 855. [1652-5.] Sheweth that whereas an ancient weare called by name of the Pike head belonging to the said hospitall was in the late warrs throwne downe and demolished as alsoe an Orchard (the fruit whereof did yearlye arise to as much money as did finde Oatmeale for the daily pottage of your peticioners) and for the erecting of a fort when Leicester was engarrisoned whereby the said hospitall is much impoverished and ye water which was a very cleare current carrying away the filth of the said house ever since obstructed which formerly was a great helpe to the said hospitall

towards their maintenance and very comodious to many Townes adiacent for the washing of their sheepe and moreover a greate nuisance nowe acreweinge by reason of the stoppinge of the said water to the almost suffocatinge of your said Peticioners. And forasmuch as the charge in makeing good the same againe will not bee performed under forty or fifty pounds or thereabouts which your peticioners are altogether unable to undergoe they being poore Almesmen. * * Humbly therefore they implore your Worshippes consideracions * * by granting an order * * that your poor peticioners may have letters of request * * for the collections of well disposed people towards soe charitable a work.

[Hall Papers XIII, No. 852 May 14, 1652. Resolution to repair Pike Heads.]

DCXXXI. *Petition of Hugh Dawes Sergeant at Mace*

Hall Papers XIII, No. 884. [No date.] Sheweth that whereas your Peticioner and the rest of his fellow Serieants for the tyme beinge did heretofore carry Severall Maces before the Mayor for the tyme beinge in Cloth Gownes faced with Budge one of which Maces beinge preserved and still extant although the same hath not beene of late yeares made use of.

Your Peticioner * * humbly desireth your Worshippes to give him leave to carry the said Mace in his Attendance upon the Mayor for the tyme beinge and in order thereunto to bestow upon him a Gowne Cloth, which if your Worshippes please to doe hee will provide Budge for the same att his owne charge.

DCXXXII. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1654-55*

Charitable Guiifts etc.

Item paid to the Schoolemaster of Thrussington for halfe a yeares sallery due to him att Michaellmas last accordinge to the last will and testament of Mr Thomas Hayne deceased £3.

Fees wages etc.

Item paid Mr Wood late head Schoolmaster beinge a free annuall guifte by the Corporacion duriinge pleasure for halfe a year ended at Lady Day last £5.

Item paid to Mr Wright for officiatinge in ye free schoole from Ladye Day to Midsomer last £2.

Item paid to Mr Thorpe for officiatinge as aforesaid from Midsomer to Lammas last £1. 5s. od.

Item paid to Mr Angell late Lecturer in this Towne by order of a Common Hall £10.

Item paid to Mr Thorpe head Usher for the free schoole by order of a Common hall was a Benevolence for his willingness to continue his service to the Corporacion £5.

Item lost by clipt money and brass money y^t was collected for the releife of the Protestants in the Dominions of the Duke of Savoy and which was returned to London by Mr Maiors order 2s.

Item paid for fifteene loads of stone to mend the frogmeere Bridge and the Back lanes £1. 3s. 10d.

Wyne etc.

Item to Mr Duckworth Head Schoolemster for part of his Sallery viz^t from Lammas till Michaellmas last £2.

[Charge	888.	18.	11.
Discharge	736.	18.	4.
remains	152.	0.	6.
Chambers	7.	0.	9.
. . . remains	159.	1.	4.
Allowed	8.	17.	8.]

DCXXXIII. *M^r Hayne's Scholarship money*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 118. [April 18, 1656.] Whereas Mr Thomas Hayne deceased did by his last will and Testament in writeing (amongst other things) ordaine and apoint six pounds yearely to bee paid by this Corporacion to two Schollers lyving and studying in Lincolne Colledge in Oxford att Michaelmas and Lady Day, the said Schollers to bee chosen of sufficient learninge and towardly disposicions by the Maior Recorder and three Senior Aldermen of Leicester or the greater part of them, and that such as were lineally descended of his father Robert Hayne or his uncle John Musson (wherever educated) to bee most capable to bee elected and that every vacancy to contynue 3 moneths that they may have tyme to make their clayme, and in case they did not clayme then to bee chosen out of the free schoole of Leicester or of Melton Mowbray if Leicester Schoole faile the space of two wholl yeares, as by ye said will appeareth. And whereas there are none that are lineally descended of the said Robert Hayne and John Musson capable of such eleccion nor have made any clayme thereto as by the said will is directed. And whereas it appeareth that one Joseph Birkhead one of the sonnes of John Birkhead one of ye Aldermen of this Burrough was brought upp in the free Schoole of Leicester and is now a Scholer [living] and studying in Lincolne Colledge in Oxford and [*illegible*] chosen and approved of for ye present by the

Maior Recorder and Aldermen above named to receave the said 6*l.* per annum by the said will is directed etc.

[There are various letters and memoranda in Hall Papers showing that the town had great difficulty in obtaining this money.]

DCXXXIV. *Civil marriage*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 155. [May 29, 1656.] Randolph Flude Katherine Lewis Married them before Mr Maior in the presence of Mr Daniell Dekin Richard Curson gentleman Alexander Cotes, James Brookes Judith Boothby and myselfe.

DCXXXV. *Distribution of bread to the poor*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 176. [June 23, 1656.] Sir

It is my humble request that you will bee pleased to take some care that your officers for ye overseeing ye poore in ye parishes of Leycester doe nott suffer any of their poore to trouble or molest this family upon Thursday next. I have taken order that three score dozen of bread bee distributed unto ye severall parishes to prevent any concourse of poore people there bee pleased to send for ye Churchwardens of all the parishes to receive for their poore soe many dozen of bread as is here mentioned unto each parish This is all at present from Sir your humble servant.

J. Sheirman.

for Martins parish 10 dozen.

for Maries parish 13 dozen and foure.

for Margaretts parish 20 dozen.

for Nicolas parish 7 dozen.

All Saints parish 10 dozen.

This bread to be distributed at ye Towne hall at 10 of ye Clocke off Wensday morning next.

DCXXXVI. *Letter from W^m Stanley one of the Burgesses*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 213. [Sep. 23, 1656.] Sir I suppose it is not unknowne to you that many worthy members returned from severall places were stopt from entering into the house, they haveing noe Ticketts appointed them, by the Counsell, of which Number our Noble Burgess, and friend, Sir Arthur Hessilrigg were one, hee goeing forth of the Towne this daye, inioyned mee to present his service and thancks to you, and the Corporacion, for there great love towards him,

expressinge his readiness to doe us and his Countrye faithfull service, when the Lord shall be pleased to offer him any opportunity, for my owne part beeinge very sensible (as I told you before) of my owne inabilitye to answere your expectacions, I was purposed to withdraw and come downe, but some worthy freinds, and members, that are both within and out of the house adviseth me yet to staye, and contynew in hoping there wilbee an expedient tendred, to incite all, or most of those Eminent members to come in, there is for present above two hundred sittinge in the house, and A Bill of great consequence is passinge, to the good likeing of my Lord Protector, and his Counsell, which wilbe made publique presently, and there are others preparinge for the good of the publique; as Registers for Probate of wills in each Countye; it may be seasonable nowe for ought I know, for Mr Moore his petition against depopulacions: for private Bills concerninge Countyes Cityes Corporacions etc. are put of for one moneth then to send up ye peticioners about the new Hospitall may doe well, not troublinge you further at present with my humble service etc.

DCXXXVII. *Letter from W^m Stanley, M.P.*

[He expects Mr John Maior solicitor up next week.]

Hall Papers XIV, No. 249. [Nov. 6, 1656.] And the poore peticion of the New Hospitall seconded by Our Towne and the Tennants of Swannington there was a general Bill put in * * for the survey of all such houses read the 12th of October but was never read since * * by reason of some other Bills of great moment intervened, this occasioneth they Deferringe but not the taking it of, and though we live in the Iron age; I meane ye Latter dayes of ye world, foretold by the Spirit of truth, that men should bee Lovers of themselves and the Love of many shall wax cold yet * * there is that spirit and life in the house that they will at lengthe give a Remedy to keep up that good old Charity provided for poore indigent people to succeeding generacions.

[Suggests there may be an opportune time for renewing the town Charter soon.]

DCXXXVIII. *Letter from Thomas Moore of Gainsborough*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 240. [Nov. 17, 1656.] Lovinge friend Mr Franckes my Love remembred theis are to acquaint you I received yours by this Bearer and according to your request I have given you an exact accompt what Cloth you have had but I cannot say what day

or dayes you bought your Cloth of this is all I can testifie the quantity and about theis dayes and tymes here exprest for I doe not putt it in my booke untill the Boate make her returne backe. I have here above, given you an exact account of one Distresse for I tooke the day into my booke for the Womans demands for Tolle that were 2d. a hundredth yards, for the place where shee tooke the distresse it were out of my Warehouse.

As concerninge the markett without our Markett day carry in all places, I conceive my Warehouse noe markett for wee say in such a streete the Hemp Markett in such a streete the Corne Markett This is all at present I can satisfye.

DCXXXIX. *Letter from W^m Stanley, M.P.*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 253. [Dec. 13, 1656.] * * A full Committee met, first was read all they 4 peticions id est, Lesters, ye Confratrors with grievances, the Tennants and the poores [and] the read Mr Lees wherein hee setteth forth that Queene Elizabeth in the 14th yeere of her Reigne, new erected this Hospitall and endowed it with Lands and Franchises, reservinge to herselfe and successors ye Donation of ye office and promotion of the Master, etc. and sayth that the Parliament gave it him without his seeking about 1649 and by the keepers of the Libertyes of England with the advice of the then Chancellor and Counsell of the Dutchy the same yeere and from both holds his place by two Patents, one under the greate seale, and another under the Dutchy seale, for terme of Life to reside by himselfe or his sufficient deputy and further sayth that ye said Hospitall hath lately beeene vescited according to ye statutes thereof by a Commission from his Highness under the Dutchy seale, the Tennants, poore people with all persons concerned called in, their grievances reviewed examined upon oath, and now returned this instant November according to his Highness command in his Dutchy Chamber, hee therefore prayes the foundacion of the Hospitall with its lands and Franchises may bee upheld the promotion of the Master vested in his Highness and Successors inviolably preserved your Peticioners Lawful propertye nowayes impeached nor his Highness vescitacion of this Hospitall now in the Dutchy Court blemisht or interrupted. * *

DCXL. *Meeting of Mayor and Justices*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 288. [Jan. 2, 1656/7.] Att this meeting Mr Barton was sent for and Tamworths prayers were offered unto him to bee performed as beinge Vicar of St Martins But hee refused to per-forme the same or accept thereof.

DCXLI. *Letter to W^m Stanley, M.P.*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 290. [Jan. 12, 1656/7.] Worthy Sir Mr Barton nowe come amongst us and takes upon him to bee our Viccar much contrary to our expectacions or desires, hee haveinge formerly declyned us att a meeting of our parish, wee have lately had another publique meetinge where hee hath declared himselfe for a Congregationall Church onely which hee saith hee will inlarge unto all parts of the Towne and that hee will admitt none to the Sacrament of the Lords Supper but such as will enter into a Church Covenant or Combinacion as hee calls it, although they shalbe people of knowledge and of godly and holy Lives and Conversations. And being asked in particuler concerninge some eminent persons then present who are knowne to be such, whether hee would admitt them to the Sacrament or not, his answere was, hee could not, unles they would enter into such a Combinacion, and that the members would consent thereto soe that wee have iust cause to feare that, wee that are already a poore divided people by his meanes are like to be sett at a greater distance then ever wee were before Therefore our earnest desire to you is that as you tender the good and comfort of your distracted Neighbours and the healinge of the said differences that are among us you please to intimate to Mr Barton that the parish doth earnestly desire that hee would provide for himselfe els where and leave the parish to provide themselves a minister rather then still to continue in or by this means to be drawn into theis differences which hee is likely to encrease and not to cure. And soe with our due respects presented wee take leave and rest.

Sir your ever assured,

E. B. Maior.

subscribed by 33 more of the best of ye parish.

DCXLII. *Letter from W^m Stanley about Gosling Close*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 313. [Feb. 4, 1656/7.] Good M^r Maior * *
M^{rs} Watts was with me att London aboute the busines concer[ning] her
lease of Gosling Close. Shee desires that what was agreed uppon in her
husbands life tyme may nowe bee perfected which is that 5*l*li.** should
bee given to the Corporacion towards the Casting of the Greate Bell
and whereas her husband was to procure a founder and give his advice
and assistance in a doeing of it, and to have it cast att his house and
to lend his materialls nowe Mistress Watts desires shee may pay her
5*l*li.** and to have the lease confermed and shee will lend all her instru-
ments and tooles and the house for the casting the bell, which is her
desire, and myne on her behalfe.

DCXLIII. *Letter of W^m Stanley and others about M^r Barton*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 316. [Feb. 6, 1656/7.] Gentlemen Wee did
of late receive a Péticion from divers of you wherein you did request
us not to further any Assessment upon your Towne in regard that M^r
Barton did deny to admitt of any persons to ye Sacrament of ye Lords
Supper (though never so knowing and free from Scandall) except such
as were of a gathered Church and would joyne together in a Combined
way: whereas wee understand that it hath been, and still is, M^r Bartons
earnest endeavor to reconcile both parties to that end that all such
who are neither ignorant nor Scandalous may be admitted to Sacra-
ment, (though differing in their Judgments:) And wee heare that the
onely hindrance why he doth not beginne and proceed in this way, is
because he cannot prevaile with any of you, to joyne with him and
assist him in any way of discipline whereby such as are ignorant and
Scandalous might be kept out; Now since you do both seem to agree
that such as are Ignorant and Scandalous should not be admitted, Wee
dō alsoe desire that (for the honor of God and your owne comfort) you
would consult and agree in some way of discipline without which, you
differ from all ye Reformed Churches: but if it please God you can
agree therein, wee have good reason to believe, that both you and your
Minister will greatly rejoice in each other: And wee do therefore
request you, that in the mean time, you would allow M^r Barton some
maintenance for his subsistance (according as you have formerly done)
for the time he hath been and shall continue with you, for you may
very well think that if he shall receive no allowance (while he doth duly
labour in the Word and Doctrine etc. and strives all he can to cement
and hasten a Sacrament) it will not onely be an hindrance to his Study

and a greate grieve to himselfe, but to many other good Spirits, Thereforre for his, and (more especially) for ye Gospels sake wee hope you will consider it; And wee should very much rejoyce might wee become Instruments of peace and concord betwixt you and your Minister: and should then be very ready to further a moderate Assessment (which your Trustee hath proposed) not exceeding 200*l.* in the generall for your owne Towne and precincts, and twelve pence per pound in particular; notwithstanding your next adjoyninge Corporacion Northampton hath voluntarily brought in a Bill (which hath passed ye House this day) to raise for their Ministry 400*l.* per annum in the generall and eighteen pence ye pound in particuler Thus hopeing and praying to heare of your Unity wee rest.

Tho. Beaumont	William Quarles
Tho. Pochin	William Stanley.

DCXLIV. Common Hall

Hall Papers XIV, No. 321. [Feb. 18, 1656/7.] It is alsoe agreed that the Bookes hereafter mencioned vizt Scapulars Lexicon Screveliues Lexicon Riders Dictionary Thomasius Dictionary Stephens [illegible] Dictionary shall be forthwith provided by Chamberlin Lincolne for the use of [the] free Schoole att the Townes charge.

DCXLV, Petition of Serjeants at Mace

Hall Papers XIV, No. 219. [No date.] The humble Peticion of Hugh Dawes, James Pedley, and John Turlington Serieants att Mace of the Burrough aforesaid Shew That the Bayliffe of this Burrough for the tyme beinge hath from tyme to tyme payed unto your Peticioners and their Predecessors the severall summes of foure Nobles a peece yearely for their respective wages out of certaine Rents in his the said Bayliffes Colleccion.

But your Worshipps beinge pleased about four or five yeares since to restrayne the said Bayliffe from collectinge them and to take the same into your owne hands your Peticioners have not since that tyme received any of the said Wages nor any other allowance in lieu thereof They therefore humbly intreate your Worshipps the premisses considered to take order that your Peticioners may be allowed the same Wages not onely for the tyme past but alsoe for the tyme to come And that you will be pleased to bestow upon them such Gowne Cloth or Liverye as you bestowed upon their Predecessors (to the end) that they may be the better knowne to be ye Servants and the better enabled to doe your service etc.

DCXLVI. *Question to Recorder concerning a dispute with the Justices of the County*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 287. [1656.] Robert Sheepardson was the last yeare discharged from victualinge by a Monethly meeting.

And afterwards upon oath made against him that hee did still use common sellinge of beere and ale was by the Maior and Justices sent to the Gaole for 3 daies and then entred into Recognizances with 2 Suretyes to apeare att the then next Sessions and noe more to sell ale or beare without license according to ye statute 5 and 6 Eliz 6^{ti}.

Att which Sessions he apeared and nothing being alledged against him was discharged of the Recognizance.

Afterwards the Maior Generall beinge content that the former proceedings against him might bee laid aside advised and directed the Maior and Justices to discharge him anewe from Victualinge and told them that the would take course and order with the County Justices that the said Sheepardson should bee noe more sett upp by them Whereupon the said Sheepardson was in March last anewe discharged by the said Maior and Justices But presently after was licensed againe by the Justices of the County.

And oath is since made by one witnes that hee doth still contynue sellinge of ale and beare commonly which he confesseth.

Question how hee shall be dealt withall.

[Note in Winstanley's hand and signed by him that the Mayor's jurisdiction over the Bishop's fee is the same as over the town.]

DCXLVII. *Meeting of Mayor and Commissioners*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 337. [Feb. 30, 1656/7.] It is ordered that the Chamberlins shall speake with Mr Ruding to enquire ye val[ue of] the Tythe of Cowe close and shall afterwards demaund Tythe in Kynd of Mr John Wadland for the same.

DCXLVIII. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1655-56**Other receipts.*

Received of Edward Pollard the 25th day of February 1655, being then Churchwarden of St Maryes parish being moneys that lay in his hands being noe viccar to officiate there £4.

Chief rents, etc.

Item payd to the Bayliffe of Merton Colledge in Oxon one cheife rent yearly out of the hospitall of St John Baptist and Leonard in or neare Leicester and due att Michaelmas last past 1*s.* 3*d.*

Fees Wages etc.

Item payd for two pound of Candles for Coll: Prides foote Guard that night that they lay att this Towne 8d.

Item paid for castinge the Cryers Bell and for the carriage thereof to Nottingham and backe againe 7s. 7d.

Item paid for a Spritle staffe for the Towne hall 1s. 6d.

Item paid for a horse hire and horse meate for Chamberlyne Cooke when hee went to Nottingham to the Maior Generall about the Towne business 4s. 8d.

Item paid to Anastatius Comnenus a Macedonian by the Maior and Justices order £1.

Item paid for Wine and Bisketts when the Maior and Aldermen went to visit the Maior Generall at the Red Lyon as appeares by bill £1. 4s. 6d.

Item paid for two horses hire for the Towne Clerke and Chamberlayne Cooke when they went to Knaptoft to Mr Moore 4s. 2d.

Item paid for carryinge of letters which Mr Maior sent to Mr Moore and Mr Yaxley about Belgrave inclosure att two severall tymes 2s. 4d.

Item payd to Edward Brookes for his horse and his paynes being sent as a Messenger by Mr Maior to severall Townes against the said Inclosure 6s.

Item paid to Mr Moor and Mr Yaxley by order of the Maior and some of the Commissioners towards their charges in goinge to London with divers peticions against the said inclosure and of their attendance there £10.

Item payd for a Banquett, Wine and Sugar when the Maior and some Aldermen went to visit the Maior Generall att Maior Babingtons house as apeares by bills £2. 13s. od.

Item given to the Ringers by Mr Maior's order for the first tyme that the Maior Generall came to Leicester 11s. 6d.

Item given more to them in Aprill followinge upon the like occasion 2s.

Item given more to them in September followinge upon the like occasion 2s. 6d.

Item paid for sending of Letters to Mr Moore and Mr Yaxley to London 1s.

Item paid to William Newton for Wine and Sugar when Mr Maior and some Aldermen went to visit the Maior Generall att another tyme 8s. 6d.

Item paid to Mr Moore and Mr Yaxley for their charges att London in prosecutinge the busines against Inclosure by order of the Commissioners £4.

Item payd to Richard Jarvis for a post and settinge the same downe att frogmeere Bridge 1s. 4d.

Item payd for three horses hire for M^r Stanley M^r Cradocke and Chamberlayne Cooke for Three dayes when they went to Nottingham to the Maior Generall and for their expenses in that Journey £2. 9t. 1a.

Interest money.

Item payd to M^r Stanley for interest of an hundred pounds for one yeare which is payd to the Schoole as the guift of Thomas Gilbert deceased £5.

DCXLIX. Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen

Hall Papers XIV, No. 347. [April 8, 1657.] It is att this meetinge agreed and ordered, That John Beeby Gentleman Bayliffe of this Burrough shall not have liberty to execute the said office of Bailiffe of this Burrough by a Deputy.

It is agreed that the three bibles given by M^r Haynes will and the sermon apointed to bee preached att the tyme of the defeat of the Spanish Armada in 88 shall speedily bee putt in execucion according to the said will.

[No. 423. The Spanish Sermon was preached on Aug. 2, 1657, by M^r Burrough.]

DCL.

[Hall Papers XIV, No. 108. [May 19, 1657.] Confirmation by Oliver Cromwell to the tenants and men of Leicester of their exemption from toll and order to proclaim the same.]

DCLI. Proclamation of Oliver Cromwell as Lord Protector

Hall Papers XIV, No. 418. [July 15, 1657.] The names of such of the xxiiij^{tie} as were present att the proclayminge of his Highnes Oliver Lord Protector of the Commonwealth of England and the Dominions thereunto belonginge

M ^r Edward Billers Maior	M ^r John Birkhead
M ^r William Billers	M ^r Samuell Wanley
M ^r William Stanley	M ^r John Clay
M ^r Richard Ludlam	M ^r Daniell Deken
M ^r William Ward	M ^r Thomas Henshaw
M ^r Edmund Cradock	M ^r William Francke
M ^r Dannett Abney	M ^r Francis Noble
M ^r Moncas Blunt	M ^r Anthony Cooke
M ^r Alexander Baker	M ^r Anthony Gilbert
M ^r George Martin	M ^r Richard Palmer
	M ^r James Foxe

The names of the Gentlemen that were present att the publishinge
of the said Proclamacion vizt

James Winstanley Esqr. Recorder
 William Sherman Esqr.
 Thomas Benington sen. Gentleman
 Francis Smalley Gentleman
 John Beeby Gentleman Bayliffe of ye Burrough of Leicester
 Edward Palmer Gentleman
 Anthony Maior Gentleman
 Edward Browne Gentleman with divers others

DCLII. Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen

Hall Papers XIV, No. 424. [Aug. 3, 1657.] It is agreed and ordered
that foure pounds shall be forthwith paid by the Chamberlins out of
the Chamber of the Towne unto the Churchwardens of the parish of
St Mary for halfe a yeares pay due to the Viccar there for ye
Corporacion.

It is also agreed that the money given by the Earle of Devonshire
to Twenty poore housekeepers that be freemen of this Burrough to
buy each of them a loade of Coales att 6s. a peece shall bee for the
future paid and distributed punctually and in such maner as by the said
Earle was directed and apointed. And that Tenn pounds of Mr Hayns
guift to ye poore of this Burrough being ye remainder of the 24*li.* per
annum shalbe for the future added to ye guifts of the wood and Cole
money and disposed of at ye same tyme according to ye said will.

DCLIII. Petition of Robert Sheepardson

Hall Papers XIV, No. 442. [No date.] Sheweth That your
Peticioner havinge lived within this Burrough for the space of Twenty
or Thirty yeares now last past and desiringe to settle himselfe therein
for the future did about foure yeares since peticon the Common Hall
for his freedome which was then agreed to be graunted unto him hee
first payinge such fyne as was then imposed upon him. But your
Peticioner being drawne away by the perswasion and evill Councell of
some of his Neighbours did obstinately and unadvisedly refuse to pay
his fyne or to clayme his freedome And yet by the license and
countenance of the Justices of the County did continue keeping of a
victualinge house in this Burrough contrary to your Worshyps command
for which cause hee hath beene enforced not onely to pay many fynes
for disorder in his house and beene sent to prison severall tymes and

as often bound over to the Sessions, by reason whereof, and of the frownes, disfavour and evill opinion which the Magistracye of this Towne had of him hee is very much impoverished and in danger to bee utterly undone. * * * Hee therefore beseecheth your Worships to pass by his former Miscarriages * * and to admitt him to become a freeman of this Burrough.

DCLIV. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 460. [No date.] Whether a course shall be forthwith taken by persons to be agreed on by the advise of the town Councell against such as shall keepe marketts in ye Country Townes for prosecutinge such persons as as [*sic*] shall use trade in towne or Cuntrye not haveing beene brought up as aprentice to be carried on att the Corporacions charge.

[An unanimous vote is given for this policy.]

Mr Mayor Mr Baker Mr Edward Billers Mr Wanley and Mr Dekin of the 24^{tie} and Anthony Curtis and Alexander Cotes mercer of the 48^{tie} or the greater number of them are desired to advise with Councell and to take such course against such as keepe marketts in Countrye Townes and such as use Trades in Towne or Countrye not haveing served as apprentices in such maner as Councell shall advise att the Town charge.

DCLV. *Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 480. [Oct. 16, 1657.] Att this meetinge William Maior gentleman is by full and free consent of the Mayor and Aldermen now present chosen elected and admitted to bee Bayliffe and Keeper of the Goale of the said Burrough of Leicester To hould exercise and enjoy the same Offices with all fees and profitts thereunto belonging for the terme of his naturall life accordinge to the nominacion of the right honorable Lucy Countesse Dowager of Huntingdon for and in right of the right Honorable Theophilus Earle of Huntingdon beinge his honors second Turne of Nominacion of the said Bailiffe and Keeper of the said goale of the said Burrough of Leicester. And the said William Maior was at ye next Court of Record (vizt) 19th of October sworne in Court. But this Company doe declare and protest against these things mencioned in the nominacions of the said Earle and Countesse to them of the said William Maior (vizt) his liberty to execute the said Offices by his sufficient Deputy and the words appurtenances.

DCLVI. *Order from the Mayor to the Churchwardens of S. Martins*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 481. [Oct. 6, 1657.] Whereas complaint hath beene made unto mee that there is and of late hath beene a very great neglect of the due observacion of the Lords day within this Burrough and the Liberties thereof to the dishonor of God and contrary to severall Acts of Parliament in that case made and provided. Theis are therefore to will and require you from henceforth upon every Lords Day and especially in the tyme of publique Worshipp to make diligent search within your Parish for all such persons as shall violate and prophane the said Lords Day in any the particulers mencioned in the late Act of Parliament for that purpose and to bringe or cause them to be brought before mee to be dealt withall according to Law And you are also to return unto mee the names of all such persons as you shall find usually to absent themselves from the publique place of meetinge and not makeing it appeare that they have beene exercisinge themselves in religious Duties. Fayle not at your perills etc.

DCLVII. *Remonstrance and Petition to the Trustees
of Wigston Hospital*

Wigston Hospital No. 15. [No date.] (a) To the honourable the Trustees and Governors of the hospitall of William Wigston in Leicester.

The humble Remonstrance and petition of the Tenants and Landholders of Swanyngeton belongeing to the said hospitall

Sheweth

That the said Tenants did longe since take notice of the foundation of the said hospitall, that the Revenues of it weare (without question) at first intended for charitable uses, But it is too apparent, that through the negligence of those which weare trusted, the same have beene so misymployed, that the hospitall hath long decreased in its stock, the Poore have not been soe accommodated as they mighte. The Tenants have beene much oppressed, by payeing fynes, and other waies, and yet noe members of the hospitall have beene enriched thereby unles the Masters have, That the said Tenants have severall tymes (to their greate cost and payne) endeavoured to reforme abuses herein, but have beene hindered, yet now seeing the reformacion hath soe far proseeded that the truth of the premisses is setled in you.

Wee the Tenants aforesaid humbly praye, that wee may be owned as Tenants to you and protected by you as our landlords, and the rather, because wee doe hereby offer (our former troubles being remembered,

and our [*illegible*] estates quietly established) in a reasonable manner to ymprove our rents, for the present benefit of the hospitall, all which in probabillity may occasion the Lord Beaumont to surrender (on reasonable termes without either much charge or trouble to any) that Lease which for a long tyme hath beene very prejudicall to the hospitall

And thus committing you and this worke to the direccion of the Almighty wee remaine freinds and servants to you and the hospitall

Tho. Barrodale Henry Letherland

Edward Mugleston Henry Walker

Griffith Power Thomas Presbury

George Roe The marke of William x Jaques

DCLVIII. *Statement of the case of the Trustees of Wigston Hospital*

Wigston Hospital No. 27. [No date.] That Mr Lee did lately come to the Trustees of Wigstons Hospitall and produced certain writeings unto them purporting accompts for the Hospitall but refused to sett his hand thereunto or to leave them in the Trustees hands but left them [*illegible*] and after take them away from [*illegible*] Denyng that the Trustees had any power by the late Act to take any accompts from him, soe that they have not any Accompts for ever since Mr Lees tyme being about 7 yeares last past although hee ought by ye Statutes to have made an Accompt every yeare which were to be layd up and kept in the evidence chamber of the said Hospitall.

That upon that short viewe which the Trustees had of those writings it did apeare that hee had charged the Hospitall with divers unreasonable somes which he pretended were expended in lawe suits amounting to 160*l.* whereabouts others in charges in answeareinge and defending Peticions against him of misdemeanors committed by him chardging the same in grosse summes in each account and refusing to make anythinge appeare in particular how and for what the same were disbursed and setting downe large allowances towards housekeepinge entertainment of strangers keepinge of gueldings and divers other uniust disbursments whereas in truth he neither kept house entertainyd strangers nor procured any benefitt to the house but much losse.

That Mr Lee desireing the Trustees to give it under your hands that they would see him paid what the hospitall was Justly indebted unto him, They offered to do it, if hee would give it under his hand that hee would make satisfaccion for what hee was Justly indebted to ye hospitall but he refused to doe it. That he keepeth certayn Accompts

evidences and writeings of the Hospitall and refuseth to deliver them upp to the Trustees which the Act appoints to be done forthwith and upon perusal of the Hospitall evidences the Counterparts of the leases of the greatest part of the hospitall lands are wanting and divers other materiall evidences.

That the Trustees are willing if Mr Lees will submitt his writeings which he calleth accounts to auditing and examinacion to allow what the hospitall shalbe found iustly in his debt upon a reasonable construccion of the Statutes but they judge itt not consistent with their trust to allow him whatever he shall demand till it appeare due and he alleadegeth they have not power to Examine his accounts but must take them as he offereth them and soe by that rule he might demand 3 times as much as is due and the hospitall obliged to pay itt which is contrary to sence and reason.

DCLIX. *Wigston Hospital Accounts*

Wigston Hospital No. 31. [No date.] Disbursements in Mr Ludlams Maioralty for the New Hospital

l. s. d.	
Item paid to Mr Thomas Wadland by order of a Common Hall for his paynes in attending the busines about the new hospital.	} 05. 00. 00.
In Mr Edward Billers Maioralty	
Item paid to Mr Stanley the Burgess by order of a Common Hall the 18 th day of February 1656 for carrying on the business in procuring the Act of Parliament for that house as by Bill appeareth.	} 30. 05. 04.
Paid to Mr Recorder in Gold for his paines and attendance on the Committee about ye same busines.	} 02. 00. 00.
Paid for procuring the same in gold	00. 02. 00.
Paid for a paper booke	00. 02. 06.
Paid for ingrossinge a peticion to ye hospitall	00. 02. 06.
Given to Samuel Horneby by Mr Mayor and Mr Stanley's order for his paines and attendance about the hospitall busines	} 00. 10. 00.
Paid for Wine Tobacco Sugar and Beere and other things att severall meetings of the Trustees	} 01. 09. 02.
Item paid for a padlocke for ye Evidence Chamber	00. 01. 06.
Paid to the Post for carrying a letter to Hatfield to summon Mr Lee hither	} 00. 02. 06.

In Mr Martins Maioralty

To Mr Recorder for drawinge the Act for the new hospital	}	01. 00. 00.
ingrossinge thereof		00. 06. 08.
drawinge and ingrossinge two other Acts concerning the same busines	}	00. 13. 04.
Expences with Mr Stanley and Mr Recorder severall tymes about this busines and Coach hire		00. 05. 10.
To Mr Stanley towards his disbursements about the same busines	}	02. 00. 00.
		Sum tot 44. 01. 04.

In Mr Cradocks Maioralty

Paid to Mr Symes by order of a Common Hall at two severall tymes	}	20. 00. 00.
Mr John Maiors Bill amounteth to		09. 04. 11.
The Bill of charges is	in toto	07. 06. 06.
		080. 12. 09.

DCLX. *Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 565. [April 28, 1658.] Upon a Letter from Mr Benson to Thomas Manninge it is agreed that the halfe yeares rent due from ye Corporacion for rents and other things which they formerly tooke of Collonel Sanderson shall be retayned in the Chambelins hands untill further order.

And that the demand of rent of 8*li.* 12*s.* 08*d.* by ye Auditor of ye Dutchy for ye yeare 1650 shall be communicated to ye Commissioners at ye next meetinge.

DCLXI. *Demand for accounts of fines and profits of the Court*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 558. [May 27, 1658.] Sir * * * * I question not but you knowe [illegible] made betwixt your predecessors and [illegible] selfe concerninge your Towne [illegible] payment of xv*li.* per annum to Mr Sanderson I sent my man to demand it which you refused without showing any cause Sir my desire is that you would take notice of whose part the breach is and yf that Mr Sanderson have nothing to doe with you then I desire an accompt of all fines and other profitts in all your Courts arisinge out of the

same as due to the present Lord of the Honor And alsoe doe discharge you from keeping of any Court Leete within your said Towne by any authority from me on the behalfe of Mr Sanderson, which is all at present only that

I am yours to serve you

Clements Inn.

W^m Brome.

DCLXII. *Declaration of Trader of Mountsorrel*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 613. [July 20, 1658.] Whereas Susanna Wood servaunt of [illegible] Raphin of Mountsorrill in the County of Leicester [illegible] did the 12th day of June now last past by my command [put] to sale in the open markett of this Burrough of Leicester a certaine peice of Woollen broad Cloth beinge Sixe yards and a halfe by mee bought in Yorkshire and not beinge my owne makeing by way of retaile contrary to the Statute in that case made and provided. But in regard I was ignorant of any such Law when the said cloth was exposed to sale, I doe therefore humbly submitt to your Worshippes goodnes therein desiringe you to passe over this my first offence in this kind. And I doe promise and ingage never to offend againe in the like kind.

(Signed) Robert Raphin.

received towards his fyne iijs. iiijd.

DCLXIII. *An address voted to Richard Cromwell*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 640. [Oct. 8, 1658.] Att a Court of Aldermen or a meetinge of the 24^{te} the Eight Day of October 1658.

It is agreed by all persons present that an Addresse shalbee forthwith made to his Highnes by the Corporacion of themselves and Mr Mayor is desired to advise with the Towne Solicitor or his Sonne and such Minister of this Borough as hee shall thinke fitt to prepare the said Addresse.

DCLXIV. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 658. [Oct. 29, 1658.] It is agreed that prosecucion shalbee made by M^r John Maior against such persons as are already sued for keepinge and selling wares in Country Townes in a marketting way and att the Townes Charge.

It is agreed that John Coleman and John Norrice shalbee appointed to walke the Towne by Turnes in the night from Tenn of the Clocke untill breake of the Day for such purpose as formerly to continue untill Ascencion even next and to bee paid att the Charge of the Corporacion.

DCLXV. *Letter from James Winstanley, Recorder*

Original Letters, No. 73. [31 Oct. 1658.] Loveing friend Mr Cole I [received] your letter of the 26th of this month, And I am and have beene as carefull of presenting the addresse as possible could bee, but soe it is that I was att the first advised not to present it or goe with it to his highnes without severall persons of the Corporacion with mee, albeit they were not Aldermen, And albeit I am well knowne to his highnes and many about him, yett I thought it more discretion to gett some grave persons of Leicestershire or of Leicester to personate Aldermen then to goe single for I intend god willing to make some overture and tender of the reall affeccion of the towne besides what is menconed in the addresse, and to remynd his highnes of the good will his late father had to the towne being the first place after many doubtfull conflicts betwixt the Armyses that god shewed himself for the prevaleing partie which was from Leicester to Nasbie etc. I shall bee sure to give a good excues for that the addresse came not sooner. And shall discharg my duty and respecte for the Corporacion to the best advantage. And have gott one Mr Sherman a grand man whoe lives here in towne and was borne att Leicester, and my Cosin Bent of Enderby and some others to goe with mee, and as many of the Court as I can to goe in with mee when I deliver it to the end that it may bee delivered with the best advantage that I can, to morrowe morneing, being Monday if wee can have audience. I will present it And those that I have spoke to goe with mee promised to bee att my Chamber att 8 of the Clock. Where wee will take coaches and goe to Whitehall, my best respects and service to Mr Maior and Aldermen I rest your ever loveing freind.

DCLXVI. *Letter from James Winstanley, Recorder*

Original Letters, No. 74. [6 Nov. 1658.] M^r Maior I shall nowe give you an account of the Addresse which you sent to his highnes, the truth is such notice is taken of all those things (more than ordinary complements and congratulacions) that if they bee not presented in an eminent and Cordiall grand way there is much notice taken of them by his highnes and Councell, And when I had none to accompany mee as members of your Borrough, I was constrained to gather upp such as I could find fitt persons in habite and gravity, And I gott my Cosin Bent of Enderby whoe is nowe in towne and some others to personate

members of Leicester, whereof one Mr Sherman a grave ancient Cittizen of London whoe was borne in Leicestershire was one. Wee went to Whitehall three tymes att tymes that wee thought good opportunities, as I was informed by the Master of Requests Mr Bacon my intimate freind of our house, but by reason of the greate busines of the funerall of his highnes which is to bee on Tuesday next but was appointed for Tuesday last, wee could not have Audience. This day in the forenoone wee were at Whitehall againe with the maister of the Requests and many Courtiers my acquaintance with mee. And his highnes being ingaged in busines with the Lord Fleetewood and others appointed us to come this afternoone att 2 of the Clock which wee did according And I being brought in with these with mee, And the [audience chamber] being full of Courtiers his highnes with a greate [show] of respecte and curtesie, received and imbraced us and [when we] had made a short speech unto him, which I would [*illegible*] mencioned in the diurnall and after reading of the adresse by his highnes secretary, his high[nes] made a pithy pious and excellent speech [in which] hee took notice of the true and harty affecc[ions] and sufferings of the towne of Leicester in the eminent tymes of danger and that God begunn to shewe himselfe the Lord of hosts in that place and from thence to Nasbie the Lord beginne [*illegible*] shewe himselfe in his instrument his late fa[ther] [*illegible*] etc. of which I gave him a hint in my speech to him, But then his highnes went on with most excellent sayeings for halfe an hower sheweinge his affeccion to the Corporacion in every close of his speech. Sti[ll] calling it by the name of the City of Leicester (after oure calling it by the name of the Borr[ough] of Leicester) as if his desire had beene to have a City, And att severall tymes in his speech hee did expresse, and gave me a charg to give a[n] account of his sayeing in this particular that if [the] City of Leicester as hee still called it h[ad] occasion to use him, hee would (as he used [the] metopher) bee like the Cloude which [*illegible*] received the pure water from the Castall [*illegible*] fountaines showere it downe againe uppon [*illegible*] thing that lay in his power. With many more [*illegible*] expressings and sayeings too long for mee to write [*illegible*] I pray Mr Maior thinke of these things [*illegible*] use of good opportunity; for I am [*illegible*] this tyme you may rectifie many [things that] are amissem in your Corporacion C [*illegible*] of your Corporacion and [*illegible*] and the Offices thereof and those that practise there, all that I can say is this I am sory former tymes did not rectifie them But I suppose it was the mighte men of those tymes that did obstrucute and retard all these things but nowe lett not the synne lye att your dores for not procureing

things to bee reformed and rectified which are too farr amisse, I have
beene as short as I can much more might I have said by I am loath
to trouble you any further only desireing my harty respects and service
to bee presented to yourselfe and the Aldermen your brethren I rest

Your reall and true servant
Jas. Winstanley.

DCLXVII. *Address to Richard Cromwell*

Original Letters, No. 75. [No date.] To his highnes Richard Lord
Protector of the Commonwealth of England Scotland and Ireland and
the Dominions and Territories thereto belonginge.

The humble Addresse of the Maior Recorder Aldermen . . .
Gentry and Comonalty of the Burrough of Leicester

May it please your highnes

As wee desire with ioyfull and thankfull harts to record the glorious
outgoeing of the most high God, whose power wisdome and free grace
have triumphed in rescueing his people (when very lowe) from the
deepe designes of subtil and great opposers; And therein to owne, as
a choice instrument sett up by the Lord himselfe your soe much
honoured father under whose Religious and prudent Conduct and
Government soe many glorious Atcheivements (through the good hand
of God) have issued as the genuine offspringe of his admirable worth
and valour havinge had a most sensible experiment thereof ourselves.
Soe wee dare not but with serious refleccion upon all our sinns to lie
lowe under the said stroake of the God of all mercies in takeing from
us soe eminent a pillar who (under him) was lookt upon at home and
abroade as the great support of our peace and ioy. Yett in the midst
of our tremblinge thoughts our hopes beginn to revive having observed
our gracious God noe sooner to frowne but as suddainely drawinge
aside that darke Curtaine and givinge us an auspicious smile of Provi-
dence in calling out your highnes to the Government of theis Nations
in such established order with unanimous Concurrence of friends and
silencinge of Enemies. Wee doubt not but your highnes looks upon
it as the worke of God, and your highest honour to study the advancement
of the whole interest of Jesus Christ and iust priviledges of his
people. Soe shall our harts bee engaged to all chearefull and ready
obedience to your highnes and humbly to begg att the throne of grace
that though your renowned father who as a designed instrument helpt
us out of Egypt (having Canaan in his eye) was even then called to

mount Nebo to die there. Yet you as another Josuah with his spirit redoubled, may by the efficacious Conduct of the Captaine of the Lords hoast lead us into a more full possession of Truth Righteousnesse and Peace as our desired Canaan and which wee also hope wilbee the happy result of your highnes Government.

DCLXVIII. *Death of a Mayor in office*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 659. [17–22 Nov. 1658.] Memorandum that upon Wednesday the 17th of November 1658 Samuele Wanley Maior dyed.

Thursday the 18th of November.

This day divers of the Ancients that had beene Maiors met att the Guild Hall to advise what was fitt to bee done as to the Eleccion of a new Maior, and how things should bee carryed on in the meane tyme, and agreed that Mr Richard Ludlam being ye senior Justice should bee in the nature of a Deputy Maior untill the eleccion of a new one, and should have the Mace carryed after him lyinge upon the Mace bearers arms. They also agreed to have an eleccion of a Maior on Mundaye followinge and Mr Ludlam commanded the Mace bearer to give Summons to both Companies accordingly for that purpose.

Friday the 19th of November.

Both Companies appearinge att the funerall accordinge to Invitacion the funerall proceeded thus The Two Sergeants att Mace haveing their Maces covered with black Tiffany went before the Corps Mrs Wanley beinge led by her Sonne and attended by the Towne Clerke and divers Mourners followed the Corps and after them the Aldermen Gentry and the forty Eight.

The Body beinge interred Mrs Wanley attended as before returned into the Maiores her seate it beinge hung with mourninge and the great Mace was carried into and laid downe in the Maiors seate it beinge likewise hung withe mourning; Mr Ludlam sittinge alone in the next seate to it: And Sermon beinge ended was carryed after Mr Ludlam to his house and lodged there and Mrs Wanley returned to her owne house attended as before.

Saturday the 20th of November.

Mr Ludlam went to Gainsborow and continued there that afternoone (hearinge Complaints) the Mace being caryed after him goeing and returninge.

The Lords Day being the 21th day of November.

Mr Ludlam went to Church attended by the Macebearer where hee sate as on friday before, the Mace lyinge as before, Mrs Wanley attended by the Towne Clerke and Mourners went to Church and sate in the Maiors seat it still continuinge covered with blacke.

Munday the 22th of November.

Both Companyes beinge mett att the hall about Nine of the Clocke in the morninge accordinge to Summons after a short speech made by Mr Ludlam went to eleccion by Tickets And when they were thoroughly counted the two great numbers happeninge to bee even they broke up untill one of the Clocke in the afternoone att which tyme they mett again and proceeded to eleccion and then chose Mr William Franke to bee Maior and swore him imediately: who Invited y^m(them?) to his house and gave y^m a very free Welcome.

DCLXIX. *Meeting of Mayor and Referees*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 669. [23 Dec. 1658.] A meetinge of the Maior and the Referrees apointed and named att a Common Hall held 26th November 1658.

It is agreed that endeavours shall bee used for ye procurement of his Highnes graunt of the Government of all the Sixe parishes, and also of the Newarke and Castle (Except of the Towne and Lordshipp of Knighton) That those that have beene Maiors may bee Justices of ye Peace soe longe as they shall continue Aldermen.

That the eleccion of Steward and Bailiffe shall bee kept wholly in ye Corporacion.

That it bee considered of whether endeavours shall bee used to procure it to bee made a County or not.

DCLXX. *Letter from W^m Stanley, M.P.*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 706. [2 Feb. 1658/9.]

Worthy Sir

I have inclosed sent you my Lord Protectors speech which commends itselфе etc. Alsoe I give you to understand that this great Honorable Assemblye is forward to promote Gods Glory and publique good and I hope will continewe soe doeinge, the house is full of members. Yesterdye the Bill was brought in and read, for the fuller setlinge of the Single person, * * * It was my happiness since I came to the Towne, to spend some hours with that Noble Esquire

Erasmus Smyth who hath a large hart to advance Piety and Charitye, hee inclynes very much, to further a reasonable mayntenance for some honest faithfull Minister to officiate constantlye to those 112 poore men and weomen in Trinitye Hospital where you and other succeeding Maiors of Leicester bee established Masters; the gentleman is now willing to make the £10 per annum promised Mr Peche and myselfe 20*l* by the yeare for ever, provided you with the Corporacion assure 20*l* more for ever; hee desires to approve of that honest able man you and your Assistance shall nominate whilst hee Lives in this Transitory life and is ready to Joyne in this good woorke, soe soon as you please. * *

DCLXXI. *Court of Aldermen*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 720. [18 Feb. 1658/9.] Forasmuch as Richard Noone John Birkhead and Mathew Coltman of the Company of 48^{tie} have all of them failed in their Estates and Creditts and have severally compounded with their Creditors for very small and inconsiderable summes of money, and yett have ever since such composicion made kept and continued their places in the same Company of 48^{tie} without ever desireing to bee dismissed from the same: Which is by this Company adiudged to bee not onely a Miscarriage and Misbehaviour in them severally but also a dishonour to the rest of the members of this Corporacion. It is therefore thought fitt and soe ordered that they the said Richard Noone John Birkhead and Mathew Coltman shal bee and are hereby severally and respectively dismissed of and from the said Company of 48^{tie} and of and from their Attendance there.

DCLXXII. *Letter from W^m Stanley, M.P.*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 739. [17 March 1658/9.]

Sir

* * * Alsoe I send you herewith an Order graunted mee on Tuesdaye by the Commissioners of Appeals about the excise which I pray you give and Communicate to Mr James Ludlam and the rest of the Brewers, that soe he may consult and prepare against an Artist bee sent from hence to examine and newgage there fatts and vessells that soe it may appeare where the error and fault is and punished accordingly.

I am moved by the Superior Commissioners and much pressed by the farmers who are sub Commissioners to send an Artist from hence to Leicester at our Brewers charge which is thought will cost neere Tenn pounds to obtayne this order I was contented to bee at halfe the charge

if I with these offers upon further conference could not prevent it more over the alleadged that the had convicted the Brewers by there owne Artist and the oathe of two persons my desire and endeavours shalbee to prevent this expence by A Composure if possible or else procure you some longer time and that one may come up in the behalfe of the rest if this parlayment continue some length of time I doubt not but a remedye wilbee sought out for this maladye.

Sir for newes I must referr you to your weeklye Intelligence They [say] Speaker Sergeant Chute is very ill his deputy pro Tempore was Sir Listebone Longe late Recorder of London hee departed this life yesterdaye morninge about ye same tyme the chose ananother Deputy Speaker, A younge Sollid Gentleman Recorder of Exceter, one who for his time is well experienced in parlymentary affayres the first business he tooke into consideracion after hee entered the Chayre was Maior General Overtons that had beene prisoner 4 years in Scotland England and yle of Jersey, the House voted his ymprisonment and detayner soe long and uniuist and Illegal because donn by the warrant of a Single person and the cause therein not declared. It is reported that 80ty members of the House is sicke besides besides, [sic] some dyed here and others returned home and dyed.

DCLXXXIII. *Petition of Stocking Makers*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 593. [No date.] We whose names are hereunto annexed doe humbly take leave to Certifie that our trade of Makeing of Stockins hath at severall times been much hindred for want of a sufficient and Carefull Turner

Doe therefore Humbly intreat that your Worshippes would be pleased to admitt of John Adcock for his freedome of this Corporacion, we have had experiance of his Care and workmanshipp.

DCLXXXIV. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1657-58*

Item paid to Mr Squires for preaching a sermon in August 1658 according to Mr Haynes will. £1.

Item paid for three Bibles beinge Mr Haines guift. £1.

Item paid to the poor of this Burrough the 23rd of July 1658 by order of the Maior and Aldermen beinge the remaininge part of Mr Haines guift for this present yeare £10.

Item paid to William Burrough and Thomas Syston beinge two Schoollers att the University by order of the Maior and Aldermen

beinge moneys in arrears and parte of ye guift of the said Mr Haine the summe of £6.

Item paid to the poore of the severall parishes upon St Thomas Day in Lieu of the Twenty pounds given by Mr Ward and Mr Bennett to the poore of this Corporacion the summe of £1.

Fees wages etc.

Item paid to Michaell Bonshaw for horse hire for Mr Coltman to goe to Mr William Heiriche for Bookes that hee gave to the Library 1*s. 6d.*

Item paid to James Bruce and Edward Pollard for beatinge the Drums when they proclaimed the Lord Protector 5*s.*

Item paid to Hugh Dawes for proclayminge the Lord Protector 2*s. 6d.*

Item paid to James Redley and John Coleman for makeing proclamation before the drums att the same time 2*s.*

Item paid to the Earl of Stamford for the purchase of Willoughby lande £15.

Item paid to the Recorder and his Clerke for the Conveyance of the lands in Willoughby Waterless from the Earle of Stamford to certaine feoffees of this Corporacion £2. 10*s.*

Item paid to Josias Ashby by Mr Mayors orders for preventinge the boyes playinge on Sabbath day 5*s.*

Item paid to the Towne Clerke for makinge of a Copy of the Charter concerninge the Country Mercers and sendinge itt upp to London 2*s. 8d.*

	<i>£.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Charges	899.	11.	2½
Discharge	729.	18.	8½
Remains	170.	12.	5½
Due from Towne to Ch:s		11.	1½
Allowed		2.	8
Soe remaineth	167.	2.	8½

DCLXXV. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 764. [13 May 1659.] It is agreed that Nyne pounds shalbee paid yearly out of the Chamber of the Towne over and besides the 11*l*s.** which is intended to bee paid out of the Revenue of the Trinity Hospital which shall be given to a Minister to officiate to the poore of the said Hospitall to commence from May Day last being the same tyme that Mr Erasmus Smith [other] 20*l*s.** shall or is to begin for the same purpose.

DCLXXVI. *Letter to John Major, Solicitor*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 784. [22 June 1659.] * * Mr Major one Abraham Wood and Francis Rosse pretendinge themselves to be deputy Aulneagers to ye Lord Fleetwood and others beinge this day with us att ye hall produced a deputacion under seale and demaunded our assistance in their searchinge of clothes in this Towne wherein wee left them to their liberty alleadginge that we were not satisfied of the legality of their proceedings therein, but would send up to the Lord Fleetwood to knowe his pleasure therein with all speed But one of the said Deputyes being very much displeased thereat did this day take horse from hence pretendinge that hee would forthwith acquaint the Lord Fleetwood therewith. Whereupon wee to prevent any misunderstandinge have Inclosed sent you Letters to Sir Arthur Hasilrigge and the Lord Fleetwood unsealed to thend you may see what wee have written and then if Sir Arthur aprove of it our desire is that you doe with all speed possible deliver the Lord Fleetwoods letter and take the management of the business wholly upon your selfe.

DCLXXVII. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 793. [8 July 1659.] It is ordered that the Maior and Justices of this Burrough for the time beinge or the greater or more [part] of them shall from time to time and att all times have power upon request to them made to make such allowance or allowances for and towards the makeing or setting upp [of Common] Pumpes in the severall Wards within this Burrough as they shall thinke fitt not exceeding the summe of $3/4$ i to a Ward which shalbee paid by the Chamberlayns out of the Chamber of the Towne.

DCLXXVIII. *Security given concerning the issue of farthings*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 788. [8 July 1659.] William Newton doth hereby promise and undertake to give such security by his owne bond as Councell shall advise for the receavinge backe of all such farthings as he hath sett and are stamped with his marke as shall bee brought unto him by any person or persons whatsoever and shall give them silver for the same. And this security hee promised to seale when hee shall bee called thereto by the Maior and Justices.

William Newton.

Wee whose names are underwritten doe hereby promise and undertake to give such security respectively as the said W^m Newton hath above undertaken to give.

Tho. Sturges	Richard Noone
Francis Elliott	Samuell Wilson
William Elliott	
James Lee	David Deakin.

DCLXXIX. *Meeting of Mayor and Commissioners*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 863. [6 Jan. 1659/60.] Upon consideracion had of M^r Dysons desires concerninge the Towne retaynenge of Collonel Sandersons Rents in their hands untill they should heare further from M^r Dyson. It is advised that the Towne Clerke shall require of M^r Dyson by or for whom hee is Employed to desire the same, and by what authority, and alsoe to see what right or tytle that person hath that gave him such authority.

DCLXXX. *Letter to General Monck*

Original Letters, No. 78. [18 Jan. 1659/60.]

Right Honorable.

haveinge lately received intelligence that your Excellency is now upon your March with an Army this way I have (by thadvise of my brethren) taken upon mee the boldnes to acquaint you with the present condicion of the Inhabitants of this place, which notwithstanding their constant affeccion to the Parliament and Commonwealth have of late suffered and still doe suffer very much by free quarter whereby all sorte of provision both for horse and man are exhausted and wee of this place made incapable to accomadate an Army soe greate and of soe high a merritt, as that which nowe marcheth under your Excellencys comaund. Sir this I conceave myselfe both in duty to your Excellency and faithfullnes to the Trust reposed in mee obliged to acquaint you with and to leave the same to your grave consideracion, assuringe you that there is noe place in the Nacion hath more respect for your Excellency and the Army then this Burrough.

I remayne Sir

Your Excellencys most humble Servant.

Leicester 18th of Jan. 1659.

These

To his Excellency Generall Moncke.

DCLXXXI. *Letter from General Monck*

Original Letters, No. 79. [19 Jan. 1659/60.] I received yours of the 18th instant; and as to the Marching of the parliaments forces under my Command they will march two or three Roades, and soe I shall nott Quarter many uppon you and those that Quarter shall bee noe burthen to you being they shall pay for what they have: I thanke you for your kinde Expressions, and I doubt nott butt the forces will carry themselves soe as you shall have noe ground to Complaine in the least: which is all att present from

Your very loving friend and servant

George Monck.

Nottingham 19 Jan. 1659/60.

DCLXXXII. *Letter from Mayor and Aldermen*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 875. [6 Feb. 1659/60.] Right Honorable Wee the Maior and Aldermen of this Burrough understandinge that upon Munday the 30th of January last past a certaine paper purportinge a peticion or addresse was presented by George Faunt Esqr. Sherife of the County of Leicester and others to generall Monke att St Albans in which paper or addresse the Burrough of Leicester seemeth to bee included whereas in truth wee refused to ioyne with the Gentlemen of the County in that addresse though moved thereunto by the said Sheriffe. Wee have therefore thought fitt for provencion of any misunderstandinge to signifie and doe hereby signifie unto your Honor and to all others whom it may concerne that neither wee nor any of us ever signed subscribed or promoted the same addresse or any other of the like nature.

[The Mayor and Commissioners also ask help for an Act to be revived relating to Wigston Hospital as places are empty and they have not power to fill them.]

DCLXXXIII. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 885. [24 Feb. 1659/60.] It is ordered that the Commissioners bee desired to examine the matter concerninge the £200 contribucion or Benevolence money paid into Chamberlin Cooke and to make their report att the next hall how they finde the same To thend it may bee Employed for the best advantage of the poore of the Towne.

It is ordered That the Coale money which is to bee accompted for and paid in by the Chamberlayne Atton to Chamberlayn Buxton

shalbee made up 30*l* out of the Chamber of the Towne which 30*l* shalbee all of it for the future laid out in Coales every sommer by the Chamberlayns for the time beinge for the use of the poore as formerly.

It is ordered that Mr Baker, Mr Franke and Mr Sherwin bee desired to take the Accompt of and from Hugh Dawes and James Redley of the Rents in their severall Colleccions belonging to Collonel Sanderson to thend the same may bee cleared.

DCLXXXIV. *Waifs and Strays at Swannington*

Wigston Hospital, No. 37. [23 April 1659.] Sir,

My love and service unto you and to Mr Simes This is to certifie you that this weeke on teusday last The Countis of huntington that liveth at dunington parke her steuard at whete weeke Cort gave charge to tow theard borrowes to take up all The weafes and streades about Swannington for ye said Countis and in Mr Job Greayes time when hee was Master of the hospitall he gave order To my father to take them up for him being The lord of the maner of Swannington then and the last yeare about this time I spake with Mr Anthony Maior Conserning of this matter and he desired me to take them up for the hospitall As my father had don before and if that any one did mislest me in so doing to acquoynt the trustees with it and I have Taken them up ever since and sum there are that are not ouned and those are still in my custity and the Countis hath sent to demmand Them of me: and to know speedily what aswer I will give and thearfore pray you and the trustees advise About it as Speedilie as you Can and send mee what Answer I shall Return and hopeing you will not fale he takes leave whoe is your most humble sarvint for ever to Comand.

George Roe.

from Swanington
this 23th of Aprill 1659.

DCLXXXV. *Wigston Hospital*

Wigston Hospital, No. 40. [5 July 1659.] Sir,

I feare our power as trustees is att an end and that the master hath sole power, It is generally said att london and here alsoe that what hath byne done since the parliaments late disturbance is nul and voide, and if soe then we the now trustees may not act till further order, I am sorrey we may not serve the hospitall as is desired, if Mr Maior please to indeavor A meeting at thassises to consider what we may safely doe, I shall then attend and if it be resolved by the

major part we may act I shalbe ready, for I professe I have byne are and shalbe willing to contribute whats in me to the serveing of the house but I feare we may not act safely till further order, this is all at present from him who is A reall well wisher to the house and your servant in what he may

whilst

Snareston
5 July (1659).

Thomas Charnells,

DCLXXXVI. *Considerations concerning the Office of Aulneager*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 773. [No date.] [Recites various Acts of Parliament.] * * Leicester is no place for making and dressing Cloathes and so no officers or searchers have beeene appoynted there, which would be done if there were occasion for it And no Aulneager or his Deputy have made any searches or attempted to doe any thinge there, onely about xxxv yeaeres agoe two men came as Deputy Aulneagers to make searches at Leicester and being denied it and questioned for it, they left the Towne and no further proceedings or searches since.

DCLXXXVII. *Rent of Leather Hall*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 790. [No date.] The Peticion not onely of the Country Tanners but also of the Company of Cordwaynors of this Burrough of Leicester Humbly shew

That whereas your Worshipps about foure yeaeres since were pleased as well for the better conveniency of the Shoemakers as also for the generall good of the people to appoint a Leather Hall in the Saturday Markett which hath ever since beeene used for that purpose. But the Rent thereof which should have beeene raised and paid by the Tanners hath been occasioned cheifely by the Tanners of this Burrough whō beinge discontented did not onely refuse to bring their Leather to the said Hall, but also have brought Actions att Law against the said Country Tanners and have caused them to expend Twenty pounds or very neare in defending there of

Your Peticioners desire * * you would be pleased to continue the said Leather Hall and to abate and forgive them the Rent now in arreare and unpaid for the same And they will ingage * * to see the Rent thereof for the future to bee duely satisfyed and paid.

(Signed by Steward and Wardens.)

Read but nothing done in it.

DCLXXXVIII. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1658-59**Other Receipts.*

Received of Walter Boughamone for sellinge of Scotscloth by way of retaile in the Burrough contrary to the Statute 3s. 4d.

Received of Mr Isaac Davenport upon the death of Mr William Longe for his horse beinge a Deodand £2.

Charitable Guifts.

Item paid to Mr Duckworth head schoolemaster beinge a free annuall guift by the Corporacion duringe pleasure for one halfe yeare ended att Lady Day 1659 by order of two severall Common Halls in the whole £10. 10s.

Item paid to Mr Richardson head schoolemaster for the other halfe yeare ended at Michaellmas 1659 £8. os. od.

Item paid to Thomas Todd for ringinge the Bell when Mr Franke was chosen Mayor 1s.

Item paid to John Ley for carryinge of Letters to London to Mr Maior with instruccions to attend the busines concerninge the Aulnagers £1. 10s. od.

Item paid to the Towne Clerke for makinge two Coppies of a Deputacion from the Lord Fleetwood and others concerninge the Aulnager and for copyyng of other things about the same business 6s. od.

Item paid to Mr Goadby and John Coleman for fetchinge the Musquetts from the Magazine and brandinge them with the sin foyle.

[Long list of "disbursements for Wigstons Hospitall" not interesting in themselves.]

	£. s. d.
Charge	959. 4. 0
Discharge	867. 7. 10½
remains	91. 16. 1
Due	9. 19. 11
remains	11. 16. 2
Allowed	3. 13. 8½
remains	78. 2. 5½

DCLXXXIX. *Gift of Coal to the Town*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 908. [19 April 1660.] In respect of ye great and good order in refferance to ye good eleccion of ye Burgesses of your Town of Leicester I doe promise to give tenn Loades of Coales to bee disposed of by ye mayor of same for ye use ye poore to bee sent for from ye coal pits att Slepston

By mee Richard Dudley.

[Hall Papers XIV, No. 899. 13 April 1660. Election of John Grey of London Armstron of Burbage recorded.]

DCXC. *Letter from Thomas Armstrong, M.P.*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 915. [3 May 1660.]

Sir This last weeke * * the proceedings in Parliament tended only to the settlement of the Houses, but this weeke hath produced an affaire of great Moment, as you will see by the inclosed letters and declarations from the Kings Maiesty, the which have beene receaved with very great thankefulness and sense of duty, aswell by both houses of Parliament as by the City and the Army. Whereupon the houses ordered Letters to be returned in answeare to his Maiesty's and have voted 50,000*l.* to be sent unto him. * * There is a Committee appointed for the drawing up of such bills as are to be presented to his Maiesty; but whether they wilbe sent to him by some of the members of both Houses, or prepared for him to signe at his Arrival here, is not yet determined So soone as theis are finished his Maiesty wilbe invited to returne but what tyme the dispatch of them may require cannot be conjectured It hath pleased God to infuse such a spirit of moderation and unanimity into the Parliament as that I hope their Consultations will make way to a happy Settlement both in Church and State.

DCXCI. *Letter from John Gray, M.P.*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 918. [10 May 1660.]

Sir

By order from ye house I here inclosed send you A Proclamation forthwith to bee proclaimed, and A Declaration to bee read after it. I should before now have sent you what hath passed since ye house sate but that I know you have it to ye full in ye Pamphletts. The Commissioners appointed by ye house to goe to his Majestie set forward to Morrow, Who returne with him with all expedition into England. I know you will have it to ye full with what great acclamation of Joy his Majestie was last Tuesday Proclaimed here and Therefore I shall not further trouble you. * *

DCXCII. *Proclamation of Charles II*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 921. [12 May 1660.] Proclamation of the Kinge 12 May 1660 these beinge present to witt

Mr Mayor, Mr Stanley, Mr Ludlam, Mr Ward, Mr Abney, Mr Blunt, Mr Francke, Mr Deken, Mr Henshawe, Mr Herricke, Mr Noble,

Mr Gilberte, Mr Palmer, Mr Fox, Mr Turvile, Mr Warburton, Mr Sherwin,
Mr J. Ludlam, Mr Curtis, Mr Callis—Aldermen

Walter Rudinge
W^m Sherman and John Bridall } Esqes

Ed: Palmer gent.	}	W ^m Syme Lecturer	
Anth. Maior gent.			
John Filkes gent.			Younge Dixie } Viccars of St Margarett
B. Billers gent.			W ^m Barton } and St Martin

Henry Rayson gent.

Proclaymed att the High Croste Barrell Croste and Gainsborough,
read by Mr John Maior to ye publisher beinge Mr Bayley.

DCXCIII. Letter from the Mayor to John Gray, M.P.

Original Letters, No. 81. [14 May 1660.]

Honored Sir

upon Friday last about ten of the clocke in ye night I received your letter dated 10 May 1660 and therein inclosed a Proclamacion which you directed was by order from the house forthwith to bee proclaymed and alsoe a declaracion to bee reade after that Proclamacion made: In obedience to that order (upon the next Day beinge Satterdaye by 9 of the clocke in the forenoone of the same day) I did convene not onely my Brethren, but alsoe the 48 together, with the Gentry freemen and others of the Burrough of Leicester and did cause publiquely and solemnly to bee proclaymed (in 3 of the most publique and convenient places of the said Burrough by the deputy Steward and Bailiffe of ye said Burrough) the said Proclamacion, and att ye said places and by ye said persons did (after the said proclamacion) cause the declaracion aforesaid to be publiquely and solemnly read which was done with greate solemnity and acclamacions of the people then any of the like nature that hath in this place preceded them with as greate Joy and unanimity as it hath beene performed in any place of his Maiesties Dominions whatsoever. It is not the least of our Joyes to heare that the house have sent Commissioners to waite upon his Maiesty in order to his retурne and wee hope that you (before the receipt hereof) have had the happines to kisse his Maiesties hand, and that wee nowe are under the proteccion of our most gracious Soveraigne Lord Charles, whome God grant longe to live and happily to governe in these his Dominions. Sir this short Accompt I by thadvice of my Brethren thought fitt to give you for your satisfaccion and for the

provencion of any Calumnyes that may be cast on this Burrough which have soe cordially and sincerely declared themselves for his Maiestye which is all that I shall trouble you withall att present But that I am Sir

Your very affectionate friend

J. C. M.

Leic. 14 May, 1660.

These For his much honored friend John Grey Esqr.
one of the Burgesses for the Burrough of Leicester.

DCXCIV. *Letter from John Gray, M.P.*

Original Letters, No. 82. [17 May 1660.]

Sir

I have your letter of ye 14th Instant; whereby I perceive you have Solemly Proclaimed his Maiestie in your Burrough, and am glad to heare that it was done with such great acclamations of Joy, and for ye affection of that Burrough I am very well satisfied with, and shall bee ready upon all occasions to testifie it both to his Maiestie and all the world; his Maiestie is this next week expected his Robes, Crowne, Scepter, etc are preparing for him, how he intends to bee received I cannot yett give you an Accompt thereof; The house is now upon the Act of Indempnities, Seaven Persons are agreed upon to loose both there lives and Estates the names are not yet nominated, others to bee banished, and such like punishment, but most (I meane that sat upon ye Kings death) to forfeit there Estates. * *

DCXCV. *Meeting of Mayor and Justices*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 926. [28 May 1660.] The information of Christopher Norrice against W^m Dawes sonne of Hugh Dawes. * *

This Informant saith that the said W^m Dawes comeing yesterday betweene 11 and 12 of ye clocke in ye fore noone by this Informants house where the Kings Armes in paper were fixed against his this Informants house end did throwe a stone or clott against the said Armes

The marke of Christopher Norris

The informacion of William Allsopp * * saith hee riding up the streete on Wednesday last * * and the said William Dawes called * * and told this informant that his workemen wanted a Berridge [He denied it] whereupon Jane Dawes mother of W^m Dawes said that his shoemaker wanted a Berridge [thereupon] this Informant said that hee had noe worke men but the Painter in the Churche settinge upp the Kings armes and it would doe her good to see them when they were done; whereunto the said William Dawes answered and said that it would doe the Devill good to see them.

DCXCVI. *Letter to the Mayor*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 937. [2 June 1660.] * * I perceave by ye last weekes newes booke that all persons concerned in purchaseing of publique lands in England are desired to Ioyne in the present addresses made to the King and Parliament for the secureinge of their severall purchases. And that each City Towne and County doe employ an Agent or Agents to apeare for them and to give in their names whereby they may bee included in the present addresses and that the Gentleman apointed by the purchasers in and about London and parts adiacent doe meeete daily att ye Legg in the Pallace yard Sir M^r Mayor is advised by some of his brethren that a certaine purchase heretofore made by the Towne of a fee farme rent of 17*l.* Issueinge out of the Castle Mills may bee included And therefore hath commanded mee to write unto you to desire you to take the same into your consideracion and (if you thinke fitt) to apeare for the purchasers and to Joine in the Addresse the deed beareth date 26 Febr: 1650 and is made from Thomas Cooke [list of names] unto John Somerfield since deceased [list of names].

Your friend to serve you

A. D.

DCXCVII. *Letter from John Gray, M.P.*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 935. [? June 1660.]

Sir I have by this Bearer sent you the Act and ordinance of Assessment for Seaventy Thousand pounds upon England for Three months from ye 24th of June next of your care therin for the present putting of it into Execution I doubt not of.

[Hospital business will not come up yet. "The 20 persons excepted" have to be nominated.]

Thirteene of ye Twenty are named as follows W^m Lenthall late Speaker, Sir Henry Vane, Major W^m Burton, Oliver St John late Cheife Justice Ald: John Ireton, Sir Arthur Hesilrige Coll: Sydenham Coll. Desborow, Coll: Axtell John Blackwell of Mortelack Coll Lambert Ald: Pack Sergeant Keeble which is all ye news at present.

DCXCVIII. *Letter from W^m Stanley, M.P.*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 940. [22 June 1660.] Mr Maior and Aldermen * * this morning the Lord of Loughborow and Edward Palmer your Towne clarke were with mee making greate Complaints that albeit hee bee returned and restored to his place of Towne Clarke yett hee doth not receive the fruits and profitts thereof and that many things

are kept and deteyned from him which belongs to his place And therefore my Lord of Loughborrowe desired mee to write to you and informe you that what Edward Palmer did, (for which hee was turned out of his place) was by his Comand, And hee willed mee to informe you, and gave mee notice thereof as I was your Recorder, that if hee doe not enjoy his place and all the profitts beloneing [*sic*] to it as fully as hee had it when he was putt out, he would make the King acquainted with it, and with those that were the putters of him out, And that hee would when you came to renewe your Charter move the King to stopp your desires.

DCXCIX. *Order from General Monck about taking oaths*

Original Letters, No. 83. [5 July 1660.]

Sir

In pursuance of an order of the Commons house of parliament there being Commissions issued under the greate seale of England to the respective Colonells and other officers or one of them with one of his Maiesties Justices of Peace in the Countyes respectively where their Regiments doe quarter to Administer the oathes of Supremacy and allegiance to their Regiments respectively. I therefore desire you with all convenient speede after the receipt of the said Commission to proceed to the execucion of the said Commission, And to returne to mee under the hand of your selfe or some other field officer of the Regiment, the names of all such officers and the number of Souldiers who shall have taken the said oathes, but if there bee any who shall refuse the same, you are to discharge all such persons refusinge, whether they bee officers or souldiers and to signifie to mee the names of any officers or souldiers soe discharged. I remaine

Your very lovinge friend and servant
George Monck.

I desire you to take Care that noe officers or souldiers be admitted into your Regiment unlesse they first take the oathes of Supremacy and Allegience or produce a Certificate that they have taken it.

DCC. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 966. [29 Aug. 1660.] It is agreed that a Surrender shall forthwith bee made to the Kings Maiestie of a certain [fee] farme rent of 17*li.* per annum issuing out of the Castle Mills in such manner as the [learned] Councell shall advise togeather with a present of Three hundred pounds in gold and that [the sum] shalbee borrowed and taken upp and the Towne Seale given for

repayment thereof And [Mr] Abney Mr Francke and Mr Deken of the Company of the 24th togeather with the B[urgesses] and Recorder shal bee desired to attend his Maiestie with the said surrender and present att the [illegible].

[Hall Papers XIV, No. 973. The Company's vote as to whether the present shall be £200 or £300. Great majority for the latter.]

DCCI. *Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen*

Hall Papers XV, No. 12. [14 Oct. 1660.] At this meeting it is agreed and ordered that Edward Palmer Towne Clerke shall be Clerke of the Statutes for this Borough and that hee shall give security to save the Towne harmeless of all damage that may happen or befall by reason of his executing of the same by neglect or otherwise, before hee be sworne and then the seale to bee delivered unto him whoe haveing given security was after sworne in open Court the 7th day of January 1660: whereupon the seale was delivered unto him.

DCCII. *The Prebend of S. Margaret's*

Hall Papers XV, No. 21. [13 Nov. 1660.] Sir Although we are altogether strangers to you as you likewise are to us, yet a divine hand havinge so ordered it as that part of the Maintenance belonginge to one of OUR Churches is lately fallen to your Lot, we are necessitated to write unto you, and the rather are wee hereunto induced because as some are given to understand by Mr Dixie who is minister of that Church, that you are both rationall and conscientious, and so very likely to hearken to that which reason and conscience shall dictate to you. Wee desire you therefore seriously to consider that the Church and parish of St Margarets out of which you have now procured the most considerable maintenance for yourself is one of the largest and withall one of the poorest in the whole Corporacion, so that though the people be numerous, and thereby the Ministers care and charge the more, yet his wants and necesitye in poynt of maintenance will be little the less, the whole meanes at present being so inconsiderable that if that which you have out of it were added to it, yet it woulde scarcely be a competency. Wee desire you further to weigh with your self whether or no the present profits issuing out of the Revenues of that Church are not rather belonging to him their Incumbent there, then to any other; and we suppose you are not ignorant neither, either by former or late Informacion received, how that Mr Dixie who is the Minister and for whome it is most proper, had entered uppon that business, before you at all appeared in it, and had not the Kings

Maiestie at that time put a stop to all grants of that nature, in all probabilitye had obtained it then, and however was likely to have effected it now, had not you (as it fell out having a little the advantage of the time and place) stepped in before him. Wee coulde add and say much more in the case but wee for beare at present making it our earnest desire and suite to you (the premisses considered) that you would be pleased upon reasonable expences allowed you to make a Resignacion of the Prebend to M^r Dixie the present Incumbent and in so doing wee are confident you shall performe a worke very acceptable to God as well as beneficall to him, and engage us and that whole parish in particular to be

Your lovinge friends

* *

These to be delivered at the George in Lombard street and left at M^r Remington's Warehouse for M^r Nath: Ward Minister of the Gospel.

DCCIII. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XV, No. 23. [23 Nov. 1660.] It is ordered that John Ley and Christopher Norrice shalbee and continue foote posts to London for the yeare ensueinge by turnes and have their respective pay of $xxd.$ a weeke allowed them out of the Chamber of the Towne provided they come every Saturday to Leicester by One of the Clocke in the afternoone. And if they or either of them fail in comeing att that time or neglectinge their or either of their Services or doe or shall exact above $3d.$ a letter of or from any freeman of this Burrough That then upon Complaint [and] prooife thereof made to M^r Mayor his or their pay so offending to be stopped for the weeke.

And it is allsoe agreed that noe person that hereafter shall move for his freedome as a stranger shall have a lesse [fyne] imposed for his freedome then tenn pounds the greater rates to be referred to the Maior for the tyme being.

It is allsoe agreed that John Eagle a souldier shall have libertie to use his calling of a Shovellmaker in this Towne according to the Act to that purpose but not to be made a free man of the Towne.

It is agreed at this hall that M^r John Turvile for the 4 silver maces and the gilding and alteringe of the greate mace and for his paines therein shall have paied and allowed him out of the towne stocke forty five pounds.

It is allsoe agreed that Richard Parsons one of the Sergeants at Mace shall have a gowne as the other Sergeants have att the Towne charge attending onely the Towne busines and not dealing att all as an Appariter.

DCCIV. *Letter from Lord Loughborough*

Hall Papers XV, No. 49. [17 Jan. 1660/1.] Mr Maior I have been informed by Mr Fawnt and Mr Orton of your forwardness to Act in order to his Maiesties Service, and the countries security, and the good affections of the Corporation in generall to Joyne with the noblemen and gentre of the county to prevent or suppress the rysings of some misled people, who being not sensible of theyr present happyness, under the government of soe good and Gratiouse a King seeke the disturbance of that blessed peace (God has in great mercy granted this nation) with the certainty of theyr owne ruine. I desyre you will returne my thanks to the Magistrates and burgess of the towne,
 * * etc.

DCCV. *Letter to Lord Loughborough, Lord Lieutenant of County*

Hall Papers XV, No. 50. [21 Jan. 1660/1.]
 Right Honorable : * *

There hath heretofore beene many meetinges of the Phantiques here in this Towne (that come from severall townes in this County) at some houses of their party some of the cheife of them wee secured upon the first rumour of the late troubles, but since his Maiesties late proclamacion concerninge them wee cannot finde that they have had any meetinges here although wee have made strickt searches for them which wee shall contynue and be carefull that his Maiesties proclamacion be stricktly observed wee have some few here in prison for refusinge the oath of Allegiance, but they are verry inconsiderable persons and soe wee conceive their party in this Towne and County would have beene if their wicked designe had proceeded, but wee blesse God for their tymely prevencion.

DCCVI. *Meeting of Maycr and Aldermen*

Hall Papers XV, No. 69. [30 Jan. 1660/1.] Att this meeting it is agreed that fourty of the ableest persons now marked in their severall wards shall be appointed and listed to bee of the trained band for this Burrough to serve his Maiestie as occasion shall require.

DCCVII. *Letter from the Mayor to Lord Loughborough*

Hall Papers XV, No. 82. [? Feb. 1660.] Right Honorable I have had some conference with divers of the Aldermen of this Burrough aboute your Lordships letter of the 25th of February last and find

them generally against ingageing untill they knowe whome your Lordship will please to comend to them. Here are divers that stand to be Burgesses for this Towne and much labouringe in that busines here is, soe that I could wish that your Lordship would recommend some Gentleman that is not altogeather a stranger in this Towne, and then I doubt not but your Lordships letter will carry it clear, which I desire your Lordship would speedily send to me for the tyme now draweth neare for the eleccion and engagements may be obteyned which hitherto I have used all meanes I could to prevent and doe believe that few or none of the Two companies are as yet engaged, and I shall still endeavour to keepe them from engaginge untill I knowe your pleasure. But if your Lordship shall name a meare stranger here then I feare the commonalty of the Towne will come in to the eleccion and soe may carry the business against the Two companies and soe your Lordship may be disappoyneted. * * However for my owne particular and soe many as I can prevaile with wilbe reddy to serve your Lordships desires and adventure the effect there of if your Lordship please.

DCCVIII. *Petition of James Redley and Jacob Banthumley
Two of the Sergeants at Mace*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 946. [No date.] Shew That your peticioners predecessors did in the times of peace attend your Worshipps with Gownes and Maces. Soe your Peticioners humbly desire that you would bee pleased to allow them soe to doe for the future which they are att this time the more imboldned to begg in regard they heare your Worshipps are resolved to have the Great Mace altered.

DCCIX. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1659-60*

Other Receipts.

Received of Mr Simes upon Bond to bee employed as a present to his Majestie Cli.

Received of Mr Cooke for the like occasion Cl.

Received of Mr Launder for the like occasion C.

Received of William Allsopp and John Roberts for the like occasion C.

Fees Wages.

[The £40 to a lecturer or preacher no longer appears.]

Item paid to Mr Henshawe, Mr Callis and Richard Coleman for a Banquett when the Maior and Aldermen went to visitt General Monck as appeares by their Bills. vli. xvij. ijd.

Item paid to the Ringers of the severall Churches att the same time *ili. ixs.*

Item paid for bringinge up the Armes from the Magazine that was taken from the Towne Hall by Capt. Dales Command *is. vjd.*

Item paid to a souldier for the Quakers paper *is.*

Item paid to John Coleman for cryinge the Armes when Staffordshire foote souldiers went out of the Towne *iiijd.*

Item paid for Beere att the hall att the quarteringe of Generall Monckes souldiers *vjd.*

Item paid to John Birkhead for his horse hire Chayes and paines when hee went to Nottingham with a letter to Generall Monck by order of the Mayor and Aldermen.

Item paid to a Cooper for unheadinge and headinge a Barrell of powder to deliver some of it to the Irish Brigade att the cominge of Generall Moncke to give him a volley of shott *vjd.*

Item paid to Christopher Norrice for his extraordinary paines for bringinge a Letter and proclamacions from Burgesse Gray to proclayme his Majestie King Charles the Second *vs.*

Item paid to M^r Baker and Chamberlayn Wanley for the Kings Colours disposed to Officers Constables Drummers and Sergeants att the same time as appeares by their bill *iiijli. xvjs.*

Item paid to the Constables which was given them to drinke for attending the solemnity by order *vs.*

Item paid to the Ringers of three parishes for ringinge that day *xvjs. iiijd.*

Item paid to Hugh Dawes for goeinge before the drummers that day and makinge proclaymacion about the Towne *ij. vjd.*

Item paid to John Garland for paintinge the Kings Armes in the Towne Hall as appeares by bill *ijli. xs.*

Item paid to M^r Ward for the payment of 28^{tie} souldiers for four dayes pay att *xjd* a man by order of the Mayor and Commissioners *vli. xijs.*

Item paid to Francis Motley for settinge up the Kings Armes in the Parlour and the Queenes Armes in the hall and for iron worke about them and for an iron hooke to hange the Coales skales in *is. xd.*

Item paid to Francis Motley for carryinge the Kings Armes to M^r Browne *vjd.*

Item paid to Francis Motley for ironwork and his labour in settinge up the Kings Armes att the East gate and Southgate and takeing up the posts and chaines about the Towne *iijs.*

Item paid to John Garland for paintinge and Gildinge the Kings

Armes att the Eastgates and in Sir Thomas Whites frame and other worke as appears by bill.

Item paid to Thomas Browne upon the day of Thanksgiving for the restoringe of his Majestie to his Crowne for the Ministers Schoole-masters and some officers in the Army beinge then in Towne and others their Dinners and for Beere as appears by his bill *iijli. xs.*

Item paid to a messenger that went to Mr Wright to preach that day *vjd.*

The present to the Kinge

Item paid beinge a present from the Corporacion to the Kings Majestie *C.C.Chi.*

Item paid for a satin purse beinge imbroydered (Leicester) with Gold Letters on both sides to present the same Gold to his Majestie *ili.*

Item paid to the pages of his Majesties Bed Chamber upon the desire of the Lord of Loughborow and with consent of the Aldermen *vli.*

Item paid for horse hires Dyet and other incident charges for the three Aldermen and Chamberlayn when they went to present the same to his Majestie as appears by a Bill of particulars *xijli. xijs. vd.*

Item paid to Thomas Chapman for Gildinge and paintinge the Kings Armes att the Southgate and North gate and other worke done att the Gainsborow as appears by bill *ijli. xiijs.*

Item paid to Mr Turvill in full for alteringe the Great Mace and for the foure silver Maces by order of a Common Hall *xivli.*

Interest Money.

Item paid to Mr John Dod of London for Interest of *100li.* for one Moneth beinge borrowed of him for the Gold presented to his Majestie before the money could be returned *xs.*

	<i>l<i>.ⁱⁱ</i></i>	<i>s.ⁱⁱ</i>	<i>d.ⁱⁱ</i>
Whole Charge	MCLxxx.	xiiij.	v. ob q <i>r.</i>
Discharge	MCLxxxvj.	ij.	iiiij. ob q <i>r.</i>
Allowed	ij <i>ld.</i>	vj.	ij. ob.
due to Chamberlain	v.	xiiij.	i.

DCCX. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XV, No. 88. [27 March 1661.] Att this hall it is agreed that this Corporacion shall stand by and beare harmelesse Mr Dannett Abney the now Maior in what he shall doe for the maintenance of the liberties of this Corporacion att the Eleccion of the Burgesses for the next Parliament, it being done with the advice of the Towne Counsell.

DCCXI. *Meeting of Mayor and Commissioners*

Hall Papers XV, No. 187. [4 Dec. 1661.] It is ordered and agreed that the Overseers of the poore of the severall parishes shalbe treated with about the severall Inhabitants in the Waterlaggs and shall every of them undertake for the Rent of such persons as came thither out of their severall parishes and ingage fortheir departure thence upon convenient warneing given by the Towne, otherwise they to provide them habitacons in the severall parishes from whence they came.

DCCXII. *Meeting of Mayor and Commissioners*

Hall Papers XV, No. 196. [24 Jan. 1661/2.] Whereas it is pretended that there is a Cheife Rent of 3*s.* 4*d.* paialble out of a certaine tenement heretofore called the redd lyon and then in the occupacion of John Loseby (vitz) If that shall hereafter appeare the said rent to bee yearely ysuing out of the said house and paialble to the Bayliffe to his Maiesties use Then it is this day ordered and agreed that the said 3*s.* 4*d.* per annum shall from thence forth bee paid by the Towne Chamberlaines and the said John Loseby and M^r Sturges the now prosecutors bee freed and acquited thereof.

Att this meeting A lease was Sealed to William Southwell and William Deane of the Shambles and Draperye for 21 yeares from Michaelmas last fyne 186*li.* 13*s.* 4*d.* Rent 15*li.*

DCCXIII. *Summary of case about a rent claimed from the Corporation for Piscary*

Hall Papers XV, No. 163. [No date.]

[Rent of 13*s.* 4*d.* per annum claimed for Piscary in "water called the Kings water in or neare Leicester." Rent in arrear, distress levied on Corporation.

Corporation do not know of water called King's water nor of "any such particular rent." They think it may be included in rent of £17 they pay upon a Patent made to Ferrers, Phillipps and others for piscaryes of the Soare from Modrehead to North Mills.

July 4, 1666. Matter referred by "this Court" to Auditor of the North Duchy but the case was held up by illness of M^r Palgrave Deputy Auditor.

Auditor now certifies. "Rent of the said piscaries from Modrehead to ye North Mills is 43*s.* 4*d.* and not the same nowe in demand but that this rent of xiijs. iiijd. per annum is for a Piscary in ye Soare from the North Mills to Belgrave Mill which is neare a myle from the Towne of Leicester and that it was in super upon the Corporation Anno 1635." Grounds on which this decision was made is not given. James I made lease of this Piscary to Henry Lord Grey for 21 years "and very

probable it is that that terme might come by assignement to the Corporacion which determyneing in Anno 1634 ye rent might well bee in sup in Anno 1635 and why the Corporation should pay the rent and have neither an estate nor profitts thereof they knowne not."

[In margin.] All arrears pardoned to 24 June 1660.

"Note this water runs all along one side of the wall of the Abbey of Leicester and that the owners of the Abbey have for a long time enjoyed and still doe enjoy the profitts of the said Piscary as is affirmed."

"To move that the Corporacion may be discharged of this rent and arrears thereof And that the Bond entred into for the performance of the aforesaid may be delivered up."]

DCCXIV. *Mercers' and Drapers' Case*

Box 9, No. 1. [No date.] (a) The case for the Mercers and Drapers of Leicester.

That the makers and workers of all Cloathes Kerseys frizes and Stuffs are enioyned by severall statutes before they expose the same to sale to pay to the Aulnagers dutyes for making and sealeing thereof.

That the Complaintiffs buying Cloathes and stuffs at the 2. 3. or 4th hand and for the most part by halfe peeces sell the same againe by retayle.

That the Complaint[iffs] conceive that none of the said Statutes doe extend or were intended to molest or question the Retayler of such Cloaths and stuffs for any default or insufficiency in the makeing dressing length bredth markeing or sealeing thereof but onely to the makers and workers thereof.

That notwithstandinge one Israell Reynolds pretendinge a Deputation from the right Honorable the Duke of Richmond or his Trustees for collectinge the duty of Aulnage for the Towne of Leicester threatens to enter into the Comp[aintiffs] shops warehouses and to search and view their Cloathes and stuffs and seize them if they be not sealed according to the said Statutes or drawe them to a composicion for the same when as in regard the Statutes were intended onely to redresse the abuse and deceipt in makeing and dressing such Cloathes and stuffs it is his duty rather to search and attend the makers and dressers of the whole peeces then the Comp[aintiffs] whoe are Retaylers and for the most part buy halfe peeces and lesse.

That untill within some fewe yeares past noe Aulneger ever came to view or search any such cloathes or stuffs of any Retayler in Leicester and the said Deputy Aulneger is content as he pretends to submitt himselfe to the Judgement of the Court.

To move for the opinion of the Courte therein.

Box 9, No. 1 (*d*). [22 Feb. 1661/2.]

London ye 22^d February 1661.

Mr Alexander Baker.

Theise serve to give covert to ye inclosed copy of a petition made to ye Parliament by ye County of Warwick and Citty of Coventry concerning ye aulnage, in perusall wherof you will se ye Contents; here some tradesmen of those parts now in towne that sollicite ye businesse and would willingly have other places give their assistance by petition in a cause so just, which being effected may remove very much trouble, which if you have not yet bin sensible of, will questionlesse fall in course upon you; but if you have bin molested in this case, your best way (anexed to your petition) certificates under some Justices hands or afadavies thereof, this thought good to acquaint you haveing done ye like to severall other parts So Rest

Your loveing frends

John and Francis Lane.

Box 9, No. 1 (*e*). [No date.]

To ye Right Honorable the Commons of England Assembled in Parliament. The humble petition of severall Mercers and drapers within ye County of Leicester and Burrough of Leicester.

Humbly Sheweth,

That whereas his late Maiesty King James of ever blessed memory did by his letters pattent bearing date ye 13 day of Aprill in ye 11 yeare of his Reigne grant to his late highnes Lodovick duke of Richmond and Lenox ye office of Aulnager for ye sealing of all sorts of wool Cloths and stuffs made of Wool or part of Wool as well of ye old drapery as of the new for ye tearme of 60 years from ye date of ye said pattent.

[Recites various statutes relating to sealing of cloth.]

And whereas ye right and interest in ye said office is now vested in certaine trustees, to ye use of and in trust for his highness Charles duke of Richmond and Lenox, they or their subordinate officers instead of regulating ye abuses prohibited and forbidden in ye said Statutes and done and committed by seyerall makers of cloth and stuffs; doe enter ye shops of your petitioners and seize their goods who only buy such cloth and stuffs at ye 3 or 4 hand to sell by Retaile to ye great wronge and damage of your petitioners.

Any your petitioners humbly conceive that there is no statute law which extenthends to authorize any aulnager or their substitutes to molest or vex any shopkeeper in this case but ye makers only of ye Cloth, so that if there were no default in ye maker there could be no offence committed by ye Retailer.

That there is now a bill depending under your honours consideration for ye ascertaining ye duty of subsidie and aulnage and therefore a fit time to demonstrate these our greivances to your Honours Therefore your petitioners humbly beseech etc. that this honourable house would be pleased to make such provision in ye said Act for ye relief of your petitioners as your Honours Clemency and Justice shall bethought meet.

Box 9, No. 1 (f). [No date.]

We whose names are underwritten beinge all of us traders and ioynly concerned and interested in the advance and benefitt of our trades, for furtherance whereof some petitions have been lately framed and are intended to be presented on our behalves to the right honourable the Commons of England assembled in Parliament, which may occasion and induce much expences of money in the prosecution thereof We do therefore hereby promise and undertake every of us to pay his severall part and proportion of the said expences and chardges to such person as shalbe imployed in the managing and following of the said petitions on our behalves, according to the rates and proportions paid or agreed to be paid by us or any of us to the Aulnager or to his Deputy in this County of Leicester or shalbe thought fitt and so declared by the two next Justices in that behalfe.

Francis Noble Maior.

DCCXV. *Petition of Nathaniell Hasselwood, Soldier, for freedom*

Hall Papers XV, No. 212. [No date.] Sheweth That the petcioner being formerly a souldier and quartering in this Towne about Eight yeares since tooke to wife one Margaret Sneape a Towne borne childe where they have continued ever since himselfe onely haveing a dependance upon the Army untill the 25th of Aprill 1660 and appeared upon the Muster ye 11th of May following and than being disbanded tooke the Oathes of Alleiance and Supremacy whereupon by the Certificate of a feild Officer and two Commission Officers of the Regiment hee was off the Peticioner was appointed to passe from the headquarters in Scotland into this County there to follow any lawfull calling for his lively-hood according to an Act of Parliament to that purpose which hee hath hitherto endeavoured to doe in an honest way as hee humbly conceives, but being informed that he cannot be permitted soe to do in regard he is not made a free man of the Towne. Most humbly therefore he craves this Assembly would * * permitt him to continue in the way he now is by vertue of the said Act or * * admitt him to bee a freeman. This Petition granted.

DCCXVI. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1660-61*

[The old entry—"Imprimis paied for a broad arrow" begins again this year.]

Other Rents Chiefe Rents and fees paied out for the lands and tenements which the Maior Bayliffs and Burgesses of Leicester hold in fee farme for ever and are hereafter mencioned and expressed as followeth (vizt.).

Imprimis paid to Mr Auditor [blank] and Mr Nuce the Receiver att the Audit holden at the Angell in Leicester for one wholle yeares rent of the lands and tenements belonging to the hospitall of St John Baptist and Leonard in or neare the said Burrough of Leicester in Mr Harvey and Mr Tathams lease in Countesthorpe, Hungerton, Siston Mills and in Siston the White horse in Leicester in the Gaultry gate there due and ended att the feast of St Michaell the Arch Angell Anno Domini 1661 the Summe of *xxxj*li.* xijs. iiijd.*

[Entries beginning with Augmentacion vijs., Bayliffe out of C.C. Guild, vijs. ix*d.* begins again.]

Also the entries beginning with St Margaret's Guild Town obitt lands iij*s.* iiijd. and those beginning Mr Auditor ij*li.* xs., Mault Mill *iiij*li.* xijs. iiiijd.*]

Charitable Guifts.

Item paid to the poore of the severall parishes upon the same day *xxxi*li.** given by Mr Ward and Mr Bennett to the poore of this Corporacion the Summe of *li.*

Fees Wages.

Item paid to Mr Simms the Towne Lecturer for his yearlye Stipend due at Michaelmas 1661. *xlii*li.**

Item paid which was given to Nyne Drumms and three trumpetts the 23rd of Aprill 1661 being the day of his Majesties royall Coronation xijs.

Item paid to William Newton for beere and tobacco att the feast there the same day for Mr Maior and the two Companies and for Seasoен genten [*Sessions gentlemen?*] Ministers and other dinners and five servants as appeares by bill. *vli.* xvijs. viijd.

Item paid to William Ward the younger for goeing to London with the Lock book being sent for by the order of the Speaker of the house of Commons *ili.*

Item paid to him for 2 Ells of Canvis and thrid to sowe the said booke in the better to conceale and secure the same is. viijd.

Item paid to Mr Dannett Abney then Maior for horse hire and charges for himselfe the Towne Clerke and Edward Pollard that waited of him to London being served to attend the Committee of

Parliament att the instance of M^r John Grey about the returne of the last Burgesses of Parliament *xxli.*

Item paid to M^r Bond vicar of St Maryes being the Kings Majesties allowance to that Church for three quarters of the yeare ended att Michaelmas 1661 by M^r Maiors appointment *vijli.*

Item paid him more for one halfe yeare ended att Michaelmas 1661 being the one halfe of one Annuity or yearlye guift given unto him by a Common Hall during pleasure *viij.*

Item paid to M^r Newton for wine to the hall for Sir William Hartope and the rest of the Commissioners when they mett about subscribing the free benevolence to his Majestie *xiijs.*

	£.	s.	d.
Whole charge	1108.	7.	10.
Discharge	943.	19.	9.
Allowed	3.	8.	6.
So remains due	158.	19.	6.

DCCXVII. *Letter from W^m Stanley, M.P.*

Hall Papers XV, No. 276. [23 Aug. 1662.] Good M^r Maior * * I finding that my absence being much out of the Cuntry thought it my duty to recomend one to bee your Recorder [*illegible*] being a man fitted and quallified every way for it, and one that lives constantly in the Country. * * Sir I sealed an Instrument of Resignacion, which I have sent to you by M^r Robert Harding a member of our house whoe I knowe to bee most able and fitt to be your Recorder. * * And I am assured that the Commissioners will be soe Civill to mee, that they have noe cause to disp[ll]ace mee unles I will my selfe but I understand that some have indeavored to pyne a Recorder uppon you, that may bee very preiudicall and a greate wounding to your Corporacion, which M^r Harding will acquaint you with and hee and you being unanimous may prevent that designe, which if not prevented might prove very preiudicall to your Corporacion, which I pray God preserve.

DCCXVIII. *Order from "Commissioners for Regulatinge of Corporacions"*

Hall Papers XV, No. 275. [8 Sep. 1662.] Whereas we have received certaine informations of severall things done by M^r James Winstanley, which may render him incapable of continueing Recorder, wee doe therefore desire and require you, that you forebear to intermedle with the election of the said M^r James Winstanley or any other person, unto

the said office of Recorder, untill wee and our fellow Commissioners shall have done with the buseness.

John Bale
Tho: Merry
Geo: Fawnt
Will. Whalley
Richard Orton

DCCXIX. *List of Weights and Measures*

Hall Papers XIV, No. 282. [7 Oct. 1662.] Weights and measures delivered by Mr Goadby to Mr King the new Macebearer.

Imprimis one brasse strike 2 brasse gallons 1 brasse quart and a brasse pint.

Item one wooden strike One peck One gallon and a quart.

Item one pewter pottle one quart and one pint.

Item one wodden ale gallon.

Item one pewter Ale quart and pewter Ale pint.

Item One brasse Ellne wand.

Item One Iron guage.

One halfe hundred weight quarterne weigh 2 seaven pounds and a 4 pound all brasse.

Item two pewter Candlesticks and one tin Candlestick and brasse snuffers.

Item One pewter Chamber pott at Gainsborough.

Item a brasse yard wand breaken in Mr Goadbys hands.

Item a Coffer which the Macebearer bought of Mr Goadby and cost 2s.

Item beame of wood and scales for woll at Mr Goādbyes.

DCCXX. *Petition of Butchers' Company*

Hall Papers XV, No. 48. [No date.] Humbly Sheweth That your petcioners for many yeares past have suffered much wronge and damage by Mr Abney the last farmer of the said shambles in raiseing of your petcioners auntient rents, and by arrestinge and seiunge divers of them at Lawe, without any Just cause, soe that your petcioners have beene much perplexed and abused to there greate hinderance and Losse and (hope) contrary to your Worshippes desires.

Wee therefore humbly beg * * that at your next setting the same there may bee some provision maide in your lease that your petcioners may pay but such rates as they formerly paide in the time of Mr Wards and others holding the same.

DCCXXI. *Meeting of Mayor and Commissioners*

Hall Papers XV, No. 191. [10 Oct. 1662.] Att this meeting it is agreed that William Deane and William Suthwell shall have Twenty Markes abated of their fyne upon their Lease of the Shambles and Drapery in lieu of the *4li.* per annum abated out of the rents of the freemen or Towne butchers stalls which was raised since Mr Wards tyme or lease thereof.

DCCXXII. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XV, No. 283. [12 Oct. 1662.] Att this Hall it is agreed and ordered that if any accions suits or troubles shall at any tyme hereafter happen arise or be betweene this Corporacion and the Inhabitants of the Bishopps fee or any other person for their continueing their Right of Jurisdiccion within the fee or for preventing the lands within the Burrough for being taxed with the said Bishopps fee that then the charge of every such suite or trouble shalbe borne by this Corporacion. It is alsoe ordered and agreed that Mr Symes shall have *5li.* parte of the *10li.* usually paialble to the Lecturer of the Corporacion and due at Michaelmas last in recompence of his paines taken in his said place for two yeaeres past before he declined the said duety in regard of his paines in that tyme and of the losse hee then susteined as to the Confrators place of Wigstons Hospitall. It is allsoe further agreed that Mr Barton shall have the other five pounds for his paines in the Lecturers behalfe since he declined the said imploiment.

DCCXXIII. *Letter to Lord Loughborough*

Hall Papers XV, No. 302. [Oct. 1662.] * * And though the late alterations amongst us might have seemed to raise some discontented thoughts, yett we truly declare to your lordshipp this Corporacion was never so much unanimous or better satisfyed then now it is in all ye late elections. * *

DCCXXIV. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XV, No. 308. [21 Nov. 1662.] It is allsoe att this hall unanimously ordered and agreed that Mr Paske shall have xs. by the weeke paid unto him for preaching the Wednesday Lecture in this Towne untill the Lecture be setled or further order there taken.

And allsoe that Mr Barton shall have 5*s.* by the weeke allowed him by the Towne for preachinge the after None Sermon upon Saboth days, it being parte of the Lecturers place untill the Lecture [shall be] setled and further order therein taken, soe that hee preach upon Catachisticall heads according to his Maiesties Iniunction.

It is allsoe Ordered and agreed that the former Order for frequenting of Sermones upon the weeke day be continued in force and the severall Acts hereafter mentioned.

DCCXXV. “*The humble petition of the Cordwainers in General
of the said Burrough*”

Hall Papers XV, No. 309. [No date.] Shew unto your Worshippers That whereas there are divers abuses committed in leather made in Towne aswell as such as is made and brought in by forreiniers By reason there is noe Leather hall kept in the said Burrough: And soe it falleth out divers times that where there is one hide searched and sealed there are sometimes Tenn for one that comes not to bee proved whether lawfull or unlawfull. And soe your peticoners trade is quite spoild and your peticoners much impoverished by the Want of such a Common Leather Hall. They therefore humbly Crave that your Worshippers * * order that for the future a Common leather hall shalbe kept. * *

The Walke under the Library and the Old Kitching att the hall are appointed at present for a leather hall untill further Order therein taken.

DCCXXVI. *Letter from Henry Baynbrigge*

Hall Papers XV, No. 315. [? 1662–3.] Mr Maior. Sir, Edward Chard Esqr Deceased, late Alderman of London did in his last will and testament give and bequeath unto your Worshipp as Maior of the burrough of Licester and your successors the Maiors of the said Burrough for ever, his two great Silver Tankards to be kept in Memory of him, Soe Sir If you please to sign and seale this inclosed receipt for the same and Apoyn特 Mr Wystanly * * to deliver it me here and receve them, it shall be performed. * *

DCCXXVII. *Grant of a year's revenue to the Crown*

Hall Papers XV, No. 348. [? 1662.]

May it please your Maiestie.

We your Maiesties most truelye loyall subiects of ye Corporation of Leycester beinge informed that theare is a Bill to be putt in to ye Parliament to give unto your Maiestie one whole years revenue out of

each towne Corporate, Incorporation and Companies within your Maiesties Kingdom of England and dominion of Wales ye sayde sum to be payed with in 3 yeares ye which as we are informed is to be bestowed upon that glorious designe of melioratinge your Maiesties pallace at Whitehall, We your poore yet trulye Loyall Subiects doe humbly agree and condesend unto ye same owinge your Maiestie next under God all what we have or can enioye and soe we shall most hartely pray that your Maiestie may longe live amongst us in all happiness peace and prosperitee and remaine

Your most trulye loyall
and obedient subiects.

DCCXXVIII. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1661-62*

Other receipts.

Item received of Sir Thomas Hasillrigg Baronett being the gift of Thomas Hasillrigg Esqr deceased by his last will and testament, the one halfe to the use of the poore of the hospitall of the holy Trinitie and the other halfe to the use of the poore of this Corporacion the summe of £20.

Fees Wages etc.

Item paid for exchange of Parliament money received of Sir Thomas Hasillrigg, the old Chamberlaines upon the foote of their Accompt and the poore mens boxes £3. 14s. od.

Item paid to John Ley for 21 Newes booke given by him to Mr Maior 5s. 9d.

Item paid to the severall parishes for ringing when the Queene came into England by order of the Maior and Aldermen £1.

Item paid to the ringers of the severall parishes for ringeing when the Bishopp came to Towne by Mr Maiors order £1.

Item paid to Christopher Norris the Post for 14 newes bodies delivered to Mr Maior by his order 3s. 6d.

Item paid by order of a Common Hall to such members thereof as went to London on the behalfe of Mr John Gray concerneing his being elected Burgess for this Corporacion towards their charges £55. 1s. 6d.

Item paid to Mr Callis for parte of a Banquett presented to the Bishopp at his beinge in Towne as appeares etc and to the Commissioners of Regulacion £2. 8s. 10d.

Item paid to him more for two broad arrowes being in arreare for two precedent yeaeres being the rent of the butt Close 2s.

DCCXXIX. *Resolutions at Common Hall*

Hall Papers XV, No. 350. [?, 1663.] Whether it shalbe voted at this hall that this Corporacion shall graunt to His Maiestie One cleere yeaeres value of the Towne lands in answer of the Letter presented to this hall.

[Votes not taken.]

It is unanimously agreed not to putt the aforesaid business to vote at this hall in regard of the shortnes of tyme to consider of a matter of soe greate concernement and that most of the present members this hall are strangers to the affaires thereof, therefore it is thought fitt that it be taken to farther consideracion after which they will bee as willing to gratifie his Maiestie according to the abilitie of the Towne as any other Corporacion whatsoever.

DCCXXX. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XV, No. 371. [26 May 1663.] Att this hall it is ordered and agreed that the former orders concerning Iron bound wheels used by brewers burnemen and carrying wares into the markett, and for carrying above a hogghead at one tyme, bee and continue in force, and they are by consent of the hall, to have tyme untill a fortnight after Midsomer to provide leggs or Joles and noe longer.

Att this hall it is agreed and ordered that the severall Dunghills laied at the Townesend bee removed between this and Midsomer next and that from thenceforth noe person presume to laie any dunghill neere the Townesend, or the Kings high way to the nuisance of the Inhabitants of this Corporacion or other his Maiesties leige people passing thereby. * *

It is allsoe agreed that from henceforth a Sergeant shalbee ymployed uppon Markett dayes to see to the ordering and place of the Corne Wall: and see after cut purses about the womans markett whoe shall have for his paines 1*li.* 6*s.* 8*d.* by the yeare to be paid quarterly. George Beeby to bee the present Sergeant soe to bee ymployed for that purpose.

DCCXXXI. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XV, No. 405. [4 July 1663.] At this hall it is unanimously agreed that the Musicians now presented to this hall being foure men and a boy shalbe receaved as Waites into this Corporacion and shall have Cloakes every twoe yeaeres the 4 men

shall have 4 Nobles a yeare [paid] out of the Towne stock dureing the pleasure of the hall And that for their further augmentacion of their maintenance every one of the foure and twenty shall quarterly pay unto them 1*s.* and that every one of the 48^{tie} shall pay unto them 6*d.* quarterly for their service, they are to have Cloakes against the Assizes at Eleaven shillings the yard to bee made upp at the towne charge. They and every of them doeing and performing such duties and services as formerly have been performed by the waites [to the] Corporacion their first payment to bee made at Michaelmas next.

It is allsoe ordered that all such persons that are free borne and have heretofore refused to accept of or receave their freedom [shall] against the next hall bee summoned into receive their freedomes and that if they or any of them refuse to accept their [freedomes they shall be ineligible] forever.

DCCXXXII. *Meeting of Mayor and Justices*

Hall Papers XV, No. 413. [31 July 1663.] It is this day ordered that the Overseers and other Parish officers of the severall Parishes within this Burrough doe from and after notice of this order appoint and sett on a fitt person for that purpose, to keepe the poore from begging either att Innes or otherwise other then in their own Parishes and to keepe others out of their Parishes unlesse such as are or shalbe allowed to begg in their owne parishes by the Officers thereof. And that specyall care bee taken for the future for the relieve of the poore of every Parish according to the Lawes and Statutes of this Realme in that case made and provided.

DCCXXXIII. *Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen*

Hall Papers XV, No. 454. [9 Sep. 1663.] Whereas Richard Bruce was lately elected to bee one of the company of the 48^{tie} and refuseth to come upon the said company. It is therefore thought good and ordered that if hee shall still continue obstinate and will not take the Oathes of an 48^{tie} man, that then hee shall pay 5*l.* for such his refusall to be required of him by M^r Maior, which if hee shall refuse to submitt unto, then that M^r Maior bee desired to confine him to the hall untill such tyme as he shall submitt, as hath bee[n] formerly accustomed in like cases.

DCCXXXIV. *Letter from Privy Council*

Hall Papers XV, No. 480. [8 Oct. 1663.] Whereas the Commissioners and farmers of the excise for the County of Leicester have informed us that att a General Sessions for the peace held in the Burrough of Leicester for that Towne upon an Appeale made to them by one David Clay Common Brewer of that Towne who hath binn a person very refractory and opposite to the Law in not makeinge his Entries and payinge his Duty of Excise, and one that stood it out to the utmost with the said Commissioners and farmers untill his distresse were taken and his person imprisoned for the said duty of Excise to the evill example of all others in that County which notwithstanding the said Sessions (as wee are informed) contrary to Law have vacated the Commissioners Judgment against him as to double duty, and discharged him of the fyne due to the King for his contempts as aforesaid and have likewise awarded the farmers shall have noe chardges in this troublesome suite but onely there bare duty. Now this being his Maiesties Revenue setled by Law upon him hee expects that those into whose hands the execucion of the law is committed should doe him right therein. And therefore wee have thought fitt before wee acquaint his Maiestie and the Councell with this illegal proceedings to require you againe to reconsider this busines and to doe them Justice therewith the consequences of such an evill Example being very desturctive [*sic*] to that part of his Maiesties Revenue; Soe bidding you heartily farewell Wee rest

Your very lovinge friends

T. Southampton

Ashley.

Southampton House,

Oct: the 8, 1663.

DCCXXXV. *Inventory of furniture at the Town Hall*

Hall Papers XV, No. 478. [9 Oct. 1663.] A note of such things belonginge to the Towne hall which were delivered by John Kestian and George Bent late Chamberlynes to the now Chamberlynes.

In the Parlour

Imprimis 8th Greene Chaires and a great Chaire and a three foote Chaire. *Item* a dozen and $\frac{1}{2}$ of Cushions, a fire shovell and tongues a paire of Bellowes, a great flagon and Boul, two pewter Candlestickes and a tinn Candlesticke a Carpell.

In the Hall

Item 39 leather Bucketts, a paire of scales and an Iron Beame one halfe hundred weight belonging to the Coale house.

In the Kitchen

Item two fire ranges and two saving irons one att Mr Deakins.

In the Coale house

A Brass pott and two rackes one broaken and one whole the Glenfield pott two hinging irons betweene the barrs.

In the Spice house

4 formes and one in the hall a Cucke stoole and a Thrall.

In the great Chamber

Old Boads and Sealing that came from the Lords place one fire Iron and 16 Pikes and a great Table.

In the little Chamber

A little Table.

In the Armory

Eight Halbers 24 Muskettts for the Townes service and 37 musketts besides 38 swords and Belts and one in James Palmers hands 26 Coslettts 40 head peices 24 Bandaleers for use besides old ones and 46 Musquetts Barrells Powder and Bulletts in the long Coffer a two small bunches of match 5. In the Gainsborow drummes A great Chair two little formes a fire Shovell and tongues and a Chamber pott and tinn Candlesticke.

DCCXXXVI. Letter from Anthony Maior

Hall Papers XV, No. 487. [14 Nov. 1663.] Honored Sir, Meeting this day occasionally with a gentleman of my acquaintance belonging to the Kings Attorney Generall he told me hee was to make out a Quo Warranto against this Corporacion of Leicester concerninge their Charter and Priviledges, and at my request he was prevailed with to forbear sending downe the writt till I had first writt downe to you and acquainted you with itt and retorne him an answer. I perceive itt is expected you should speedily take order for renewinge of your Charter and the Gentleman tells me there is an expedient found whereby it may be affected with less chardge and trouble then that way Mr Recorder was goinge and if you thinke of addinge or alteringe any of your Priviledges itt may be a convenient opportunity to doe itt onely care must be taken they be moderate and reasonable. I conceive itt were not amisse Mr Recorder were speedily consulted about this. * *

DCCXXXVII. *Seizure of Republican Literature*

Hall Papers XV, No. 471. [No date.] [illegible] acquainted by Mr Robert Harding our Recorder of [illegible] in the Employment of the Right Honorable and Right Reverend father in God my lord of London his service occasioneth me to write these fewe Lynes unto you : to accquoynt you that of Late there hath beene sent downe from London tow packets of Bookes the one packet directed to one of our Stationers the other to the other, but who sent them there Letters import not the person consealeing his owne name that sent them, which I being accqueynted with by our booksellers seazed the bookes into my hands upon my owne observation of the times knowing that from the Pullpits and the Presse all a Longe in the Late time of Rebellion all factions had there first rise and groweth and factious Spirrits being restless in themselves, and not Content to sit downe under the gloryous dispensation of our good god, and his sacred Majesties Abondant mercy and clemency towards them but abusing the same by a lawless liberty they assume to themselves to a brett there owne Interestſ still and adventure to print such bookes as may disturbe the peace both of Church and State amongst others I presume these I have seazed are some of them a parte, and therefore according to my duty and Alegience I owe to his sacred Majestie in disschardge of the trust commited to me in my place I could not but accquoynt you with what I have donne and have hereincllosed sent you up one of the Letters with the names of the bookes, tow of Sir Henry Vaines triall tow of his Leife towe his Epistle and the rest as is Contained in the Letter: Desiringe Sir you will send me Advise how they shall be disspossed of, for I am unsatissfed they should be put to sell untill I here my Lords pleasure intimated to me by you I hope I have commited noe error in the Searching them; if it should be any I hope it will be Judged an Error on the Right hand rather than on the Left.

* * Daniel Deaken Maior.

DCCXXXVIII. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1662-63**Shambles Draperie etc.*

Item paid to the Receiver in Rent and fees more then heretofore was accustomed being unduely demanded and exacted xiijs. iiijd.

[This has been in before but without the final five words.]

Fees Wages etc.

Item paid to James Lee for bringing downe the two silver tankards given by Alderman Charde to this Corporacion by Mr Maiors order vjs. viijd.

Item paid to M^r Callis for a banquett presented to the Earle of Chesterfield being Lord Chamberlaine to the Queenes Majestie by M^r Maior and thaldermens appointment and for 4 pounds of hard suger and for cloves and ginger then used iiiij*li.* vs. vijd.

Item paid to John Ley for carryinge certaine bookees seized on as of dangerous concernement to the Bishopp of London by M^r Maiors order iijs.

[Addition to Mayor's Salary.]

Item paid him more allowed by a Common Hall as a further addicion to the former allowance; held the 20th day of February 1662. xxli.

Item paid which was given to trained souldiers att the bringing in their Armes into the Armory by order of M^r Maior and the Justices xiiij*s.*

Item paid to the trained souldiers, for watching eight of them by the night at the severall gates for preventing of Insurrecions from the first day of November for 38 nights to every of them by the night 1*s.* by order of ye Maior and certaine of the Aldermen, in the wholle 15*li.* 4*s.* except three shillings deducted for twoe holbeards lost by George Ball and Thomas Farren xv*li.* 1*s.*

Item paid to James Annis Anthony Stubbs and others for walkeing the Towne by night to see to the safety thereof for 4^{te} weekes, twoe of them onely for the first fortnight and foure for the residue of the tyme at halfe a crowne a man by the weeke by order of a Common Hall x*li.* xs.

Item paid to John Stafford for the relief of maimed souldiers for the Forrest close vd.

Item paid to George Beckett for M^r Whattons charges that preached the thanksgiving sermon upon the 29th of May by M^r Maiors order 1*s.* xd.

Item paid to M^r Holeman for teaching the high schoole Schoollers a quarter of a yeaer after M^r Birkehead left the schoole being more then the Townes usuall allowance by the appointment of M^r Maior and certaine of the Aldermen 1*li.*

Item paid to George Beeby for lookeing to the Corne Wall and Womens markett for one quarter and a halfe by order of a Common Hall xs.

DCCXXXIX. *Letter about proposed new Charter*

Box 14, Various papers No. 2. [16 Nov. 1664.]

Mr Browne

Therefore wee desire you to take upp so much money of Mr James Abney as Mr Johnson and Mr Deighton Mr Attorneyss Clerk and yourselfe shall think necessary to doe our whole Busynesse this and next terme and pray deposit or pay them some parte of what is to begin the busynesse of their present dues and wee have sent you the last Charter past the Privy Signet under the Clarke of the Signets hand whereof intreat Mr Johnson and Mr Deighton to bee Careful, for wee desire it may now passe in the same Words as then it was granted by his late Maiesty Without any diminucion but with Addicion of the things herein after mencioned. Which is first, That whereas wee have Lease of the fynges and Amercyaments and perquisites of Courts from the Dutchy att a full Rent That ye same may bee granted us and our Successors in fee farme att the same Rent in our Charter which must passe under both Greate Seale and Dutchy also, which will bee otherwise a double Charge Wee also desire that on our Saturday Market wee may also have a horse market And that forreyners of all Trades that market day may depart in Summer att seven of the Clock and in Winter att five of the Clock and not stay all night in Towne, as now they doe to preuidice the Burgesses and goe home on Sunday morning And that the Mayor may bee confirmed (as hee is) Master of the Hospitall. And that all our parishes Subburbs and feilds may bee continued within the Regulacion of Mr Mayor and the Corporacion as are Explained in this Charter sent you And that our Wast grounds in Leicester may bee granted us and inserted in the generall words of the Charter as is usuall to other Corporacions And that the incroachment of the Country Justices Stewards Sherife and forreine Jurisdicciions may bee Restrained by a speciall Clause of non intromittent into the Townes Subburbs feilds Libertyes etc as is usuall. Sir wee pray informe Mr Attorneys Clark herein and gett a Draught prepared for our Charter that wee may see it, and consider thereof till next Terme, and lett it bee sent downe and the next Terme wee shall attend Mr Attorney and pay all fees, and perfect our busynesse. Wee have sent you a Letter to Mr Attorney signed by the Corporacion to Apologise our neglects, Which you must seale and deliver from us if you shall see Cause. And you are also desired to take out a true Copy Examined by the Rolle of our last Charter which we cannot find att present but was

granted in the 14th year of King James And to leave that Copy and the Copy of the Dutchy Lease also with Mr Attorneys Clerke of the Patents you need no new Grant for the horse market, the Saturday market being already granted for all things, only insert more generall Words for horses Beasts and all other Comodityes Wee desire also you will bring us word what other Charters or Copyes thereof wee must further produce to Mr Attorney in Respect of the danger of sending them for in this Patent now sent you there is a Recitall of many others Wee desire you to carry on our busynesse as privately as you cann to prevent any Opposition Sir, as for the money you are to receive of James Abney hee being come out of the Towne it is left in London But Mr Alderman Abney by next Post will send you a Letter where you shall Receive fifty or three score pounds or what you want att present whereof you are desired to lay out no more this Terme then need require This with our Respects Remembered to you wee Remaine

Your loveing friends

William Callis Mayor

Robert Hardinge

Dannelt Abney

John Clay

Francis Noble

Daniel Deuken

Richard Palmer.

DCCXL. *A trade dispute. Statement of case to the Recorder*

Hall Papers XVI, No. 33. [1 Dec. 1664.] The Case That one Shilcock was bound and hath served 7 yeares as an Apprentice in the Borough of Leicester to the trade of a Taylor.

That not being content with the trade wherein he was brought up he nowe buyes great quantities of Cloth of forrein Clothiers makes them up into garments and sells and exposes them ready made to sale to the great impoverishinge of the Drapers, Mercers, Taylors and other Trademen there.

Whether there be any course at lawe or otherwise to restrayne him and howe.

I conceive that if he doe onely buy Cloath or stuffes and make them into Garments and sell them ready made, this is but an Ingenious way of improveinge the trade that he was bredde in, and he is not punishable for it But if he make Pillian Cloathes Horse Coathes etc He is indictable for useinge ye trade of a sadler (within [the borough]) for this is an offence against ye statute of 5. Eliz. C. 4.

And if he buy old Cloathes and sell them againe perhaps this (being ye trade of a Broker) may be within that Statute but I doe doubt it.

1 dec. 1664. Fr. Pemberton.

DCCXLII. *Reasons for abating John Turvils rent of Castle Mills*

Hall Papers XV, No. 595. [No date.]

1. *Imprimis* The losse of the Malt Mill being of considerable value and there upon forty shillings promised to bee yearly abated of the Rent.

2. The dam of the mill stremme being choacked with mud occasioned by the new trenches made for the Bullworks in the late tymes soe as the water comes not cleare to the Mills and soe they are become of lesse yearly profitte and value then formerly and not worth the rent Reserved.

3. The rent sett upon these milles is more then the rent of both the next water mills which are each of them as good as these Mills, Which was first accustomed by the Townes givinge an extraordinary price to Sir Edward Moseley for those Mills and soe setting the rent of them accordingly whereas the Towne then thought fitt to buy their pour of Sir Edward Moseley whoe claymed a priviledge to take grists from other Mills here to grinde at these mills.

4. A new windmill sett up to these mills which cost above one hundred and Twenty poundes building and fittinge for grindinge.

DCCXLII. *Letter to Recorder about the new Charter*

Hall Papers XV, No. 623. [No date.] Mr Recorder * * Mr Attorney Generall haveing courteously received our letter and perused the contents seemed to doubt what the issue of our busines would be in case any such letter should come to the hands of the Lord Chancellor as was intended by the County Justices and because our desires in our letter to him were onely to have those things confirmed which were formerly granted Therefore and for prevencion of tedious and chargeable attendances Mr Attorney was pleased to advyse us (as ye best expedient in such a case) to gett a Patent to that purpose that it might passe the Seale before the letter intended for his Lordshipp should arrive promiseinge his best assistance to that end which he very honorably performed for within a very few daies after our Charter was sealed and is nowe in our custody here at Leicester. * *

DCCXLIII. *Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen*

Hall Papers XV, No. 626b. [No date.] [John Huckles appointed Town Clerk and takes this oath besides others.]

I John Huckle doe declare that I hold that there his noe obligacion upon mee or any other person from the oathe commonly called the Solemn League and Covenant and that the same was [in it] self an unlawfull oath and imposed upon the subiects [of this] Realme against the knowne Lawes and Liberties of this kingdom.

DCCXLIV. *Chamberlains' Accounts, 1663-64**Other receipts etc.*

Item received of the Inhabitants of the house called Parrat being the guift of Mr Botham to the use of the poore of St Martins Parys ij*li*.

Item received for the haie gotten upon Burges meadow this yeare iiij*l.* xijs. vjd.

Item received of Mr William Warberton upon the purchase of the Sallow Close from the Towne xli.

Charitable guifts.

Item paid to the poore of this Corporacion being the gift of Mr Thomas Hesillrigg deceased xijs.

Item paid to the poore of the Old Hospitall being allsoe his guift xijs.

Item paid to Mr Holman headusher of the Grammer Schoole being the Townes free gift dureing pleasure per annum vi*li*.

Item paid to him more being the Townes free gift dureing pleasure per annum ij*li*.

Item paid to the Underusher being the Townes free gift dureing pleasure per annum ij*li*.

Item paid to the headschoole Master of the Grammer Schoole being the free Annuall gift of this Corporacion dureing pleasure per annum xli.

Item paid to him more being the Townes free gift dureing pleasure per annum vj*li*.

Item paid to the poore of S. Martins being the gift of Mr Botham for one wholle yeare ended at Michaelmas 1664. ij*li*.

Item paid to the poore of the Old Hospitall being the gift of Richard Hitch late of that house deceased iijs. viijd.

Fees Wages etc.

Item paid which was spent upon the Gard att the Towne hall upon the Alarne Oct: ye 13th 1663. xs.

Item paid 40 men sett upon the watch the 15th of October 1664, by Mr Maior and the Justices order *iijl. xjs.*

Item paid to the trained bands for two dayes service *vijl.*

Item paid to the Muster Master for Swearing and Mustring of them *iiijl. xiijs. iiijd.*

Item paid more to the trained bands for three dayes service *ixl.*

Item paid more to the trained bands for three dayes service *ixl.*

Item paid more to the trained bands for six dayes service *xvijl.*

Item paid for wood to burne fish upon the Corn wall in Lent *vjd.*

Item paid for mowing and makeing the haie upon Burges meadow lately granted to the Towne by Mr Stanley *xvijs. xd.*

Item paid in parte purchase of the said meadow to Mr Stanley over and above the *100l.* putt into the Townes hands of the gift of Mr Thomas Gilbert for payment of five pounds per annum to the Master and Ushers of the freeschoole according to the trust *xli.*

Item paid to Mr William Stanley for one yeares rent for the said meadow, ended at Lammas last *vli.*

Item paid to Mr Barton for preaching in the after Noone pon the Sabbath day as parte of the Lecture not formerly allowed *iijl. xs.*

Item paid to Mr Palmer then Maior for the charges of a Traitor that was sent from London to Derby with a guard to be tryed for his life *xiijs. ijd.*

Item paid to Mr Callis now Maior for parte of the Banquett presented to the Duke of Ormond by this Corporacion *ijjl. xijs. ijd.*

Item paid to Abraham Inge for repaireing of two wells in St Margarets Church gate as appeares by bill *iijl. viijs. jd.*

Item paid to Mr Barton for preaching of foure eleccion sermons by Mr Maiors and Justices order *iijl. xs.*

Item paid to Abraham Inge for repaireing the well in the Galtry gate as appeares by bill *iijl. viijs. jd.*

Item paid for the Silver Earepeece to Mr Turvil for the Townes use by Mr Maiors appointment *iijl. xiijs.*

Paveing this yeare.

Item paid to John Brookes for paveing worke done leading from the Canke well by the Parratt to St Martins Church as appeares by bill and for worke done in the Fryer Lane *xvijjs. iijd.*

Item paid to Thomas Derby and John Browne for worke done about S. Maryes Chancell, Towne hall and horse poole neere St James Chappell as appeares by bill *ijjl. xvs. vd.*

Item paid to Thomas Derby and John Browne for worke done goeing from the Galtry Gate to the horse poole, and about the horse poole as appeares by bill *ili. xvs. jd.*

Interest money.

Item paid to M^r William Stanley for interest of one hundred pounds for one wholle yeare being the gift of M^r John Stanley deceased paialble to the schoole *vli.*

	<i>£.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Whole Charge	960.	7.	8 $\frac{3}{4}$.
Discharge	1015.	18.	3 $\frac{1}{2}$.
Due to Chamb:	0063.	13.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$.

DCCXLV. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XV, No. 648. [14 April 1665.] It is agreed and ordered at this hall that John Foster sonne of John Foster of this Burrough shall have foure poundes allowed him out of the Towne stock towards his mayntenance at the University, and the said sum to bee putt into the hands of M^r Thomas head Schoolemaster. * *

DCCXLVI! *The information of Henry Jervis*

Hall Papers XV, No. 700. [22 April 1665.] This Informant saith being a watchman he mett one Richard Fukes in the Streete in arageing humor, and soe uncivill in his language that this Informant and some other of his fellow watchmen tooke the said fukes and sett him in the Stocks for abuseing several persons by traduceing termes and sweareing many oathes And said that hee was the Kings deputy.

DCCXLVII. *Calendar of Prisoners*

Hall Papers XVI, No. 18. [8 March 1665/6.] Upon Baile

Walter Grace	for suspicion of breakeing into the parish Church of St Martins in the said Burrough and takeing out of the Vestrey the Surplis and defileinge the Communion vessels with their Excrements
Daniell Higgs	
Francis Motley	
Elisha Newcombe and	
his wife	
John Coleman and	

John Page
Walter Grace is now in the Goale upon Execucion.

DCCXLVIII. Meeting of Mayor and Justices

Hall Papers XV, No. 663. [30 June 1665.] It is ordered by the Justices at the said meeeting that whereas severall nuisances happens by the Hosiers in throwing downe their sudds in to the streetes, That the Constables of each Ward give notice to the severall persons for the future not [to] annoy the Inhabitants with such pouring downe sudds, and in case they doe not forbeare the same That then they shall bee Indicted at the next Assizes and alsoe at next Sessions ; or if any butcher or other person do the same.

DCCXLIX. Meeting of Mayor and Justices

Hall Papers XV, No. 665. [7 July 1665.] It is ordered and agreed at this meeeting that the Maior and Justices of the peace with the assistance of Mr Alexander Baker one of the Aldermen of the said Burrough shall have power to order and dispose of persons coming from London or any other place according as they shall give creditt to their ticketts.

It is alsoe ordered and agreed that Christopher Norrice, John Tirlington, John Loseby and Robert Silbie shall be watchmen for the present and at pleasure for keeping persons for coming into the Towne from London or any other place, unless they bee approved of by the said Maior Justices and Aldermen Baker, and that the said watchmen shall have for their pay Eight pence apeece per diem to bee paid to them severally every weeke by the Chamberlane appoynted for to pay the same ; And alsoe that the said watchmen permitt not any person coming from London or any other place infected to come into the Towne unless they have order from the said Maior Justices or Aldermen or Alderman Baker or any of them. It is alsoe ordered that the Constable shall have a copy of an order made in the Maioralty of William Ludlam for entertaineing or lodging of any persone coming from London or any other place infected with the plague, and that the said Constable give notice thereof to every person within his ward.

DCCL. Meeting of Mayor and Justices

Hall Papers XV, No. 667. [28 July 1665.] It is alsoe ordered that M^r Maior give notice to the Carriers of this Towne that they goe noe more to London, If they doe That they provide themselves of Lodgings, and places to Aire theire goods distance from ye towne for such time as they shall bee required.

DCCLI. *Order from Officer of Green Cloth to the Justices
of the Peace in or near Leicester*

Hall Papers XV, No. 672. [29 July 1665.] These are by warrant from the Officer of the Greene cloth to give you notice to provide the number of fifty Carts and carriages to attend at the Towne of Leicester on Tuesday next being the first of August by five of the Clock in the mornening at the furthest from thence to remove fifty loade of his highnes the Duke of Yorke's goods to the Towne of Nottingham for his Maiesties speciall service.

The same carriages to consist of foure able horses or six oxen or foure oxen and two horses for each of which Cart or carriage the respective owners shall receive sixpence for each mile they shall goe laden, hereof you are not to faile * * *

Bedford Charnvell

Cheife officer of his Maiesties Carriage.

DCCLII. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XV, No. 675. [31 July 1665.] This hall was called to attend and waite upon his highnes the Duke of Yorke the day [illegible] aforesaid and to bring him into the Towne. And was then alsoe agreed to present him with [illegible] rich Banckett, which was likewise presented upon Munday at night being the one and thirtieth of July aforesaid.

The same day Robert Harding Esqr Recorder made a Speech.

DCCLIII. *Presents to Duke of York and others*

Hall Papers XV, No. 676. [31 July 1665.] Wine ordered and agreed to be presented to his Highnes the Duke of Yorke and ten pounds of a double refined sugar as they are particularly hereafter mentioned to bee sent for to the persons under named

Mr Richard Palmer three gallons of sack and five of White wine

Mrs Cotes widow five gallons of sack

Mr Browne three gallons of sack

Mr Newton two gallons of sack and five of clarrett

Mr Maior ten pounds of the best double refined sugar
vj*li.* xv*js.* viij*d.*

DCCLIV. Refusal to renounce the Covenant

Hall Papers XV, No. 690. [13 Sep. 1665.] It is ordered at this meeting, That Thomas Stavely Esqr^t Steward of the Court of Record of the said Burrough, and Mr Francis Noble one of the Aldermen of the same Burrough, bee desired speedily to waite upon Sir Jeffery Palmer his Maiesties Attorney Generall to advise what course to bee taken with Mr Edward Billers William Warburton and William Orton persons elected of the company of the 48^{te}, for refuseing to renounce the Covenant according to act of Parliament in such case provided, and to bee members of this Corporacion.

DCCLV. Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen

Hall Papers XVI, No. 13. [26 Dec. 1665.] It is ordered and agreed at this meeeting That the refuseing of Edward Billers William Warburton, and William Orton to renounce the Covenant and subscribe the declaracion mencioned in the Act for regulating Corporacions, shalbee signified to the Councell according to the Order of his Maiestie and the Lords of his Maiesties most honorable privy Councell.

DCCLVI. Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen

Hall Papers XVI, No. 17. [29 ? 1665.] It is ordered at this meeting That John Huckle the Towne Clerk shall goe to morrow morneing towards Hampton Court to waite upon the retorne of his Maiesties Councells order directed for fetching up Edward Billers William Warburton and William Orton for their contempt in refuseing to renounce the covenant, and waite the Councells commands therein.

DCCLVII. A Constable's report on condition of his ward

Hall Papers XV, No. 714. [22 Sep. 1665.] John Wilkins Constable of Mr Abneys ward the 22th day of September 1665 in Answer to my Lord Cooks Articles unto the Mayor and Justices of the Borough of Leicester presenteth as followeth.

1. *Imprimis* wee have noe Recusants within the sayd ward to my best knowldg.
2. We have no Common profaniers of the Sabbath to my knowldg.
3. Wee have noe new erected Cottages nor Inmates as I know of.
4. Wee have 13 Inns and Alehouses in our ward and all of them keepe good orders in their houses soe far as I know onley doe not selle a quart of ale for a peney.

5. Wee have noe Common Barriters nor forestallers of the market etc.
6. Wee have noe Common Drunkards in the sayd ward to my knowledge
7. Wee keep watch and ward daly etc.

John Wilkins.

[List of 13 persons "for breaking the Assize of beere and Ale."]

DCCLVIII. *Letters patent of Charles II (translated)*

Charters Letters Patent etc., No. 109. [20 Jan. 1665.]

Charles the Second by the Grace of God King of England Scotland France and Ireland Defender of the Faith etc. to all to whom these present letters shall come greeting. Whereas our Borough of Leicester in our County of Leicester is an ancient and populous borough and has been a Corporation or a body Corporate and Politic for many centuries past, and whereas the Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses of the Borough of Leicester aforesaid had held exercised used and enjoyed and now have hold use and enjoy divers liberties privileges franchises customs powers immunities preheminences lands tenements possessions and other hereditaments and were and are vested and endowed with the same both by force and virtue of divers Charters Letters Patent grants and confirmations heretofore made granted ratified and confirmed by divers our progenitors Kings and Queens of this our realm of England as well as by reason and pretext of divers laudable and ancient prescriptions used and approved in the same borough; and whereas our well beloved subjects the present Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses of our Borough of Leicester in our County of Leicester aforesaid have humbly besought us that we would graciously exhibit and extend our royal grace and munificence to the said Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses for the improvement and better government of that Borough in the ratification and confirmation of the body Corporate aforesaid and of the ancient liberties and privileges of the same borough: know ye therefore that we graciously affecting the improvement of the Borough aforesaid and the prosperous condition of our people there and willing that the Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses of that Borough should be armed and endued with suitable powers and privileges as well for the due correction amendment of evils and inconveniences as for the good rule and government of the same Borough, do well of our especial grace and of our certain knowledge and mere motion and by the presents do give grant and confirm ratify and

approve for us our heirs and successors to the Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses of the Borough aforesaid and to their successors all and all manner of mesuages mills lands tenements tithes meadows pastures pasture lands commons Coronor Escheator Courts of Record Cognisance of Pleas Goods and Chattels of felons and fugitives felons *de se* and felons put in exigent Deodands Waifs Strays Markets Fairs Tolls Tal-lage Taxations Fines Ransoms Issues Amerciaments Forfeitures Perquisites of Court goal deliveries (*Gaole libertates*) and such as many and the same of such and similar liberties franchises immunities exemptions privileges acquittances jurisdictions waste lands commodities profits immoluments and hereditaments whatsoever as were granted or were mentioned to be granted by the charter or letters patent of our predecessor lord Edward IV late King of England under his great seal of England bearing date at Woodstock the 24th day of August in the fourth year of his reign or by the letters patent of our renowned predecessor the lady Elizabeth late Queen of England under her great seal of England bearing date at Westminster on the first day of June in the forty first year of her reign, or which the Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses of the same Borough or their predecessors by whatsoever name or names or by whatsoever incorporation or by pretext of any name or incorporation heretofore lawfully had held used or enjoyed or occupied or ought to have had held used or enjoyed or now have hold use enjoy or occupy to them and their successors by reason or pretext of the charter or letters patent aforesaid or of either of them or of any other charters grants or letters patent heretofore made in any manner whatsoever by any of our progenitors or ancestors late Kings or Queens of England made granted or confirmed or which they heretofore lawfully had or used by any other lawful manner right or title custom use or prescription although the same or any one or more of them have been forfeited or lost and although the same or any of them have been abused or not used or have been discontinued: to have hold and enjoy to the aforesaid Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses of the Borough of Leicester aforesaid and to their successors for ever; and rendering and paying therefore yearly to us our heirs and successors such so many and the same such and similar fee-farms rents services sums of money and demands whatsoever as were wont to be rendered or paid to us heretofore for the same or as ought to have been rendered or paid.

Wherefore we will and by the presents for us our heirs and successors do order and firmly enjoin that the aforesaid Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses of the Borough aforesaid and their successors shall and

may have hold use and enjoy all the liberties authorities jurisdictions franchises exemptions immunities acquittances and hereditaments aforesaid according to the tenour and effect of these our letters patent and of the aforesaid other letters patent mentioned above in the presents without hindrance or impediment from us our heirs or successors Sheriffs Escheators Bailiffs Officers or Ministers of us our heirs and successors whomsoever willing that the same Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses of the Borough aforesaid or any one or more of them shall not be hindered molested or aggrieved or in any way disturbed herein by reason of the premises or any of them by us or by our heirs or successors the Justices Sheriffs Bailiffs or Ministers of us our heirs and successors whomsoever; willing and ordering by the presents as well the Justices appointed to hold pleas before us and the Treasurer Chancellor and Barons of our Exchequer at Westminster and other Justices of us our heirs and successors as our Attorney and Solicitor General for the time being and each of them and all other Officers and Ministers of us our heirs and successors whomsoever that neither they nor any one or more of them shall prosecute or continue or cause to be continued any writ or summons or distress *de quo warranto* or any other our writ writs or processes whatsoever against the aforesaid Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses of the Borough aforesaid or any one or more of them for any causes things matters or offences or any one of them claimed used attempted or had before the day of the making of the presents; willing also that the Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses of the same Borough or any one or more of them shall not be molested or impeded by any one or more of our Justices Officers or Ministers aforesaid in or for the due use or claim of any other liberties franchises or jurisdictions within the aforesaid Boroughs and the liberties franchises limits or precincts of the same or be compelled to answer for these things or for any one or more of them notwithstanding that the letters patent aforesaid or the dates of them have been not recited or have been badly or incorrectly recited and notwithstanding that the aforesaid messuages mills lands tenements tithes meadows pastures pasture-lands and the other premises previously granted by the presents or mentioned to be granted or confirmed or any part or parcel thereof have been badly named or badly recited or not named or not recited, and notwithstanding that an office or offices an inquisition or inquisitions have not been found of the premises above by the presents previously granted or mentioned to be granted or any part or parcel thereof by which our title ought to have been found before the making of these our letters patent and notwithstanding that any demise or grant of the

premises or any part or parcel thereof whether of record or not of record in any other wise whatsoever heretofore made has been badly recited badly named or not recited, and notwithstanding that any town hamlet parish place or county in which the premises or any part or parcel thereof lie has been badly named or not named, and notwithstanding that any true full or certain mention has not been made of the names of tenants farmers or occupiers of the messuages mills lands tenements tithes or hereditaments aforesaid or of any of the premises or of any part or parcel thereof; and notwithstanding any misprisions or defects of the certitude or computation or of declaration of the true annual value of the premises or any part or parcel thereof or of the annual rent reserved in and upon the premises or of in and upon any parcel expressed and contained in these our letters patent, and notwithstanding the Statute made and issued in the Parliament of lord Henry VI late King of England in the eighteenth year of his reign; and notwithstanding any other defects in not naming or badly naming the nature kind species quantities or qualities of the premises or of any parcel thereof.

Provided always and we will and ordain and firmly enjoin by the presents for us our heirs and successors that the Mayor Bailiffs Burgesses Recorder Common Clerk and all other officers and ministers of the Borough aforesaid and their deputies and also all Justices of the Peace of us our heirs and successors within the Borough aforesaid to be named elected or constituted by virtue or according to the tenour of the presents or any other letters patent or Charters heretofore shall before they be admitted to the execution or exercise of the office or offices place or places to which they shall be respectively hereafter nominated elected or constituted or before they or any one of them respectively intermeddle in this behalf, take both the bodily oath commonly called "the oath of obedience" and the bodily oath commonly called "the oath of Supremacy" upon the holy Gospels before such person or persons as are at present or who shall be hereafter appointed and designated to give and administer such oaths by the law and Statutes of this our realm of England.

And moreover we will and declare our royal intention that no Recorder Steward Solicitor or Common Clerk of the Borough aforesaid to be hereafter elected or constituted shall intermeddle in such office or offices or any of them respectively before they and each of them respectively shall have been approved by us our heirs or successors, notwithstanding anything in the presents contained or any other thing cause or matter whatsoever to the contrary thereof in any way.

Notwithstanding in any way that express mention has not been made in the presents of the true annual value or of the certitude of the premises or any of them or of other grants or concessions made heretofore by us or by any our progenitors or predecessors to the aforesaid Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses of the Borough aforesaid or any statute act ordination provision proclamation or restriction to the contrary hereof heretofore issued ordained or provided or any other thing cause or matter whatsoever.

In testimony of which matter we have caused these our letters to be made patent. Witness myself at Westminster the 20th day of January in the sixteenth year of our reign

By order of the King

Vyner

Examined by me

DCCLIX. *Petition of Edward Hunt*

Hall Papers XV, No. 677. [No date.] Sheweth that your Peticioner conceiving that he hath a right unto the Jury wall and hee is very loath for to demolish it for Antiquitye Sake, therefore he doth now humbly crave of your Worshipps that you would allow him some thing what your Worshipps please, for he doth leave it to you, and doth further crave an Answer upon this Peticion.

It is ordered that the peticioner shall not bee allowed any thing in lieu of the wall at present, and what hee doth therein shall bee at his perill.

DCCLX. *Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen*

Hall Papers XV, No. 688. [? 1665.] It is alsoe agreed That if any person of the Company of the Eight and forty will not leave to ride horse for any person for pay as troope or any one of the said company shall not leave of to serve in any imployment as a servant to any person, shall bee discharged of their attendance in the said company.

It is alsoe agreed there shall bee hutts and railes provided and sett up at the charg and out of the Towne Stock for keepeing out infectious persons and releiveing other passengers necessited for lodging and mainteynance, And that the Maior, Justices and Chamberlaines shall consider of the convenient places and see or procure the same to bee erected.

DCCLXI. *Extract from a will*

Hall Papers XVI, No. 11. [No date.] A branch of Mr William Stanley Senior once one of the Aldermen of this Burrough his will.

I give one hundred pounds, that is now in the towne hands, to ye Mayor Bayliffe and Burgesses if they will accept thereof, and assure without delay some suteable quantitie of there free land, to pay five pounds by ye yeare for ever, to theise following pious and charitable uses: That is four pounds by ye yeare as my Brother John Stanleys gift, which I have now payd above This forty yeares, That is to ye vicar and preaching Minester of Martins thirty shillings by ye yeare every halfe yeare fiftene shillings; alsoe to ye head Scoollmaster twenty shillings; and to ye head Usher Thirteene shillings foure pence and Under Usher six shillings eightpence all to be payd in ye same manner as ye Vicar of Martins is that is one halfe uppon the 25th of March; and ye other halfe at Michaelmas; by even and equall portions, alsoe ten shillings by ye yeare about Michaelmas, to ten Anntient single persons widdows or maids 12*d.* a piece, The remaining twenty shillings of ye five pounds I give to the poore of Trinitje hospitall in ye Newark for ever.

DCCLXII. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1664-65**Fees, Wages, etc.*

Item paid to the Head Schoole Master three pounds, to the head Usher one pound ten shillings and to the underusher ten shillings being the guift of Mr Thomas Gilbert out of the Burgessesse meadow in toto *vl.*

Item paid for portage and poundage for receiveing of Mr Maiors twenty markes as Mr of the hospitall *xjs. viijd.*

Item paid to the old hospitall people for oate meale being the guift of Mr Tayler *ijl.*

Item paid for a Turnepike for the horsefaire head *is. ijd.*

Item paid to William Foster a scholler at Oxford upon his petition for helping him thither by order of a Common Hall *iiijl.*

Item paid to Eight Drumers the 10th day of June for beateing at the Bonefires upon the defeate of the Dutch twelve pence a peece and to Twenty trayne souldiers the same day sixpence a peece *xvij.s.*

Item paid to Mr Richard Palmer for a peece of ground at the Water leggs taken to build hutts on in case of necessity any should fall sick of the plague *il.*

Item paid to Matthew Coultsman for his paines in rideing to give notice of the Dukes coming to towne, for his horse hyre and for his paines in attending the Dukes harberiger to take up quarters vs.

Item paid to William Keyner for two daies attendance when the Duke of Yorke was at the Lords place by order ijs.

Item paid to John Parker for carrying a letter to Beaumanner concerneing preaching the Hospitall Sermon is. vjd.

	<i>£ s. d.</i>
Whole Charge	1113. 4. 10 <i>½</i>
Discharge	1245. 5. 8.
Remainder	0134. 11. 5 <i>½</i>

DCCLXIII. *Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen*

Hall Papers XVI, No. 23. [6 April 1666.] It is ordered and agreed at this meeeting that Mr Edward Billers, William Warberton and William Orton refuseing to signe and seale the bonds tendered unto them for secureing the payment of the fines imposed upon them for refuseing to serve of the company of eight and forty or Common Counsell, and to accept of the discharge for being hereafter elected of the said Company now shewed unto them; It is ordered that their refusall shall bee in convenient time retorneed to the Lords of his Maiesties most Honorable privy Counsell, according to the order of his Maiesties Counsell in that case made.

Memorandum that the day and yeare aforesaid the aforesaid Edward Billers, William Warburton, and William Orton came to Mr Maior and desired they might putt in Bond for payment of their fines, and that they might have the discharge for being elected of the Company of the Eight and forty etc. as heretofore were tendered them. All which was graunted them and they and every of them respectively in the afternoone of the day aforesaid signed sealed and delivered their said Bonds in the presence of Mr Maior Mr Noble Mr Clay Mr Deaken and Mr Palmer Aldermen.

DCCLXIV. *Petition of Edward Billers, Wm Warburton and Wm Orton to the Privy Council*

Hall Papers XVI, No. 29. [No date.]

Sheweth

That the petitioners find that they have bene misrepresented and complained of to the most honorable Board by the Mayors Bayliffs and Burgesses of the Towne of Leicester as obstinate persons

to the Government of that Corporacion and particularly in not submitting to an Eleccion made of them to some in the place of Common Councell men of the said Burrough whereupon it was ordered the 29th of November last that the petitioners (not being heard) should submitt to their eleccion within 14 daies after sight of the said order etc. Or upon Certificate of refusall should be sent for by a messenger That upon notice there of there of [sic] the petitioners made their humble addresses to the Mayor and Corporacion of that Towne, setting forth that they are young men (the elder of them not being above 25 yeares old) Batchelors noe Housekeepers and haveing noe one servant amongst them, as by their said humble address and alsoe by their voluntary deposicions taken before the Mayor of Oxford (where they attended at the end of January last to express their ready and obedient submission to whatsoever upon hearing the truth of their cause should be comanded them) hereunto annexed will plainly appeare. That the petitioners are informed That the said Mayor hath lately certified to this most honorable Board against the petitioners chargeing them with obstinacy and disobedience to his Maiesties and your Lordshippes order.

The petitioners most humbly beseech your Sacred Maiestie and this most honorable Board to admitt them to be heard by their Councell and to appoint some certaine day for heareing of all parties and that (upon notice) as well the said Mayor and Corporacion as the petitioners alsoe may be Commanded to attend this Board not doubting but to vindicate themselves from the Misrepresentacion and Crymes suggested against them.

Statement of the Case against the Petitioners

Hall Papers XVI, No. 32. [No date.] For the Mayor Bayliffs and Burgesses of the Borough of Leicester against Edward Billers, William Warburton and William Orton. The effect of your peticion to the Counsell.

That ye Mayor and Aldermen of the said Borough and ye greater part of them were wont upon ye death or removall of any of them or of the Company of 48 called the Common Counsell to elect other in their stead.

That 3 of the said Company of 48 beinge lately dead the Mayor and Aldermen duly elected the defendants in their places whoe takeinge advantage of a clause in the late Act of Parliament for regulatinge Corporacions refused to renounce the Covenant whereby their eleccion is declared void.

Therefore they pray such order as his Maiestie should thinck fitt.

29 November last By an Order of the Counsell recytinge the Petition ye said parties are ordered to submitt to their [election] by takeinge ye usuall oaths and alsoe the oath in the Act within 14 daies otherwise a messenger to be sent for them. Note there is a slipp in the penninge of this Order for the parties are thereby enjoyned to take the oath in the Act but there is noe mencion of their renounceing the Covenant which is not an oath but onely a Subscriptcion to a declaracion to that purpose and is the onely ground of ye Peticion.

The Corporacion under their Common Seale Certify the tender both of the oath and subscriptcion but they persist in their refusall.

Thereupon and order of this february issued recytinge ye first order and ye Certificate requires the Defendants to take ye oaths and subscribe or pay such fynes as the Corporacion shall impose otherwise a Messenger is forthwith to bring them up without further order. Note before this order could be procured to be signed by the Clerke of the Counsell the Defendants haveing by some means Intelligence thereof came up and are ordered to stand committed before they be heard.

They alleadge in excuse:

1. That they are young men noe householders and keepe noe Apprentices or Servants.
2. That they offered to pay such fynes as the Corporacion should impose.
3. That they offered to submitt to their eleccion.

Answer:

1. They are all shopkeepers and of very good trades and estates and there are very few of like ability with them considering ye late Regulacion.
2. The Corporacion if they should impose fynes have noe power either by grant or prescription to recover them besides they rather expected their conformity in renounceing the Covenant than their fynes and alsoe conceived it would be imputed (as a presumpcion) in the Corporacion after they had appealed to the Counsell to impose fynes.
3. It is true they did offer to submitt to their eleccion by takeing the oaths but would never be perswaded to subscribe to renounce the Covenant and by that meanes their eleccion is voyd by the Act.

DCCLXV. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XVI, No. 157. [15 Feb. 1666/7.] At this meeeting the Accompt of John Hall and John Goodall Chamberlaines were this day read and allowed there being due unto them at the foote of their accompt the summe of two hundred and seaven pounds sixteene shillings one penny farthing for the payment of which to the said Chamberlaines It is this day ordered that they shall enquire where to borrow the same, And for payment whereof the Commissioners seale for this Burrough shall be given.

DCCLXVI. *Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen*

Hall Papers XVI, No. 167. [15 March 1666/7.] At this meeeting James Poyner was elected and chosen one of the Sergeants of the lesser maces, and one of the Attorneys of the Court of Record of our Soveraigne Lord the King for the said Burrough: and to have receive and enioy the usuall stipend wages fees and sallery as hee ought to receive by vertue of his said office.

It is alsoe ordered and agreed at this meeeting That Mr William Elliott and Mr James Lee the present Chamberlaines shall have power to contract and agree with widow King and widow Parsons for the Gownes the Mace bearer and Sergeant newly chosen now weares.

DCCLXVII. *Dispute with Mr Wadland concerning right of way*

Hall Papers XVI, No. 70. [No date.] To prove in the Tryall against Mr Wadland and others.

1. That tyme out of mynd there hath byn a way for Carts and Carryages leadeinge from Southgate street into and through Mill Lane to the Newarke Mill and thence to retorne at pleasure

2. That Mr Wadland and his workemen have digged a ditch and planted trees and erected a buildinge upon the lane

3. That all ye old feoffees except Mr Norris, Mr Abney and Mr Ward are dead

4. to prove ye feoffment to Mr Southwell and Mr Roberts

Question if ye Newarke Mill and ye Mill lane be in ye parish of St Maryes

(If it may be) yett some witnesses that dwell not within Leicester to prove the way.

DCCLXVIII. Order about half pence and farthings

Hall Papers XVI, No. 111. [16 Nov. 1666.] According to an order of a Common Hall held the xvij day of this instant November Mr Maior doth straightly require all manner of persons within this Burrough that they doe not at any time after this notice, sett forth or stamp, or cause or procure to be stamped any more half pence or farthings. But that all and every person or persons within this Burrough who have already sett forth farthings doe forthwith repaire to Mr Maior to give in bond for the exchanging of all such farthings and halfpence for silver according to the quantity offered by any person, as every one will answeare the contrary at their perill.

DCCLXIX. Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen

Hall Papers XVI, No. 126. [? 1666.] Upon readeing severall Excepions against Richard Parsons now keeper of the house of Correccion, by which wee doe conceive him insufficient to keepe the same any longer It is therefore ordered and agreed at this meeeting That the said Richard Parsons be forthwith removed from the said office, and that Edward Mathewes bee put and setled in the said place of keeper of the said Bridewell and to enjoy and hold the same dureing the pleasure of the Maior and Justices. And alsoe it is further agreed that the said Edward Mathewes shall hold the Common Gaole for the said Burrough in the said house paying to the Corporacion five pounds per annum to bee paid halfe yearely, And whereas there is allowed to ye Keeper of the House of Correccion twenty nobles a yeare; It is ordered and agreed; that the said Edward Mathewes shall allow and pay out of ye same unto the said Richard Parsons ten shillings every quarter of a yeare for one yeare to commence from St Thomas day next eveneing the date hereof. And it is alsoe agreed That the said Edward Mathewes shall provide a convenient house for the said Richard Parsons his wife and children therein to live rent free dureing the ioynt lives of them the said Richard Parsons and Edward Mathewes.

DCCLXX. Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen

Hall Papers XVI, No. 143. [8 Feb. 1666/7.] It is ordered at this meeeting that the said Jacob Bothemly shall keepe the liberary doors open from the feast day of the Annunciacion of the blessed virgin Mary untill the feast day of St Michaell the Archangel from eight of the clock in the forenoone untill Eleaven of the Clock in the forenoone of the same day, and from one of the clock in the afternoone untill four

of the clock in the afternoone of the same day and soe to continue that halfe yeare; And from Michaellmas untill a Ladiday from nine of the Clock in the forenoone untill Eleaven of the Clock and from one in the afternoone untill three of the clock and soe to continue dayly and every day except Sabbath daies dureing the time hee shall continue the said office. And alsoe that the said Jacob Bothemby shall not at any time or times at the request or desire of any person or persons nor by any other [illegible] lend take out or cause to bee lent or taken out any booke or bookes now being or which hereafter shall bee in the said Liberry upon forfeiting his place and offices, soe soon as any such thing shall bee made appeare to Mr Maior for the time being.

Whereas at this meeting the said William Orton was elected to bee Mace bearer But it appeareing to the Maior and Aldermen that hee is not at present clearely discharged out of the Towne Gaole from several debts he was laid in for [illegible] cannot at present gayne a release by reason of Mr William Maior Bayliff of the Burrough being at London It is therefore [illegible] that his Eleccion at present shall bee suspended untill Mr Maior bee fully satisfied by Mr Maior [that he] is clearely acquitted from the said debts, and other troubles conceived hee is now incumbered with.

DCCLXXI. Chamberlains' Accounts. 1665-66

Received of Mr Edward Billers for halfe parte of his fine of one hundred markes imposed upon him for refuseing to serve as one of the company of Eight and forty or Common Councell men xxxiiij/. vjs. viijd.

Received of William Warburton for the like contempt xxxiiij/. vjs. viijd.

Received of William Orton for the like contempt xiiij/. vjs. viijd.

Received for the goods of widow Boyer who drowned herselfe being forfeited to the Towne xiijs.

Fees Wages etc.

Item paid to him (the Clerk of the Assizes) at the same Assizes for drawing of an Indictment against the persons then questioned about takeing the surplus out of St Martins Church ijs.

Item paid to the Waights and Drumers the 29th day of May last past being his Maiesties birth Day and happy returne into this Kingdome xijs.

Item paid to the ringers of the severall parishes in June last for ringing for the victory over the Dutch xviijs.

Item paid to Henry Heywood for 40^{tie} Kids to make a burnefire the same time vijs. ix d.

Item paid to seaven drumers the 24th day of August last being a thancksgiveing day for a victory over the Dutch vijs.

Item paid to eight Drumers and two Trumpeters at the readeing of the proclamation of warrs with France xs.

Item paid to M^r William Southwell for a chamber to keepe ye leather hall in for one yeareshire rent ended at Michaelmas last i*l*.

Item paid to M^r Plikintons for beere and tobacco when both companies went to meeke her highnes the Dutches of York vijs. vjd.

Item paid to five halbert men that watched at the Corte doer dureing the time ye Dutches did stay in the Towne and for sweepeing and carrying away the dust and dirt about the great house and one man for watching carriages xs. vjd.

[Trained Soldiers, still 40 in number.]

Item paid to Francis Ward for his Maiesties declaracion about the fire at London and a Gazett is.

Item paid towardes the repaire of Coventry Church by order of a Common Hall to bee added to what was collected in the Towne to make up the summe of [blank] thither i*l*. iijs.

	<i>£</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Whole Charge	0875.	7.	5 <i>½</i>
Discharge	1080.	1.	4 <i>½</i>
Supers allowed		3.	3 <i>½</i>
Due to Chamberlain's	0207.	16.	1 <i>¼</i>

DCCLXXII. Letter from Lord Arlington

Hall Papers XVI, No. 184. [30 April 1667.] Whereas I have thought fitt for ye advantage of his Maiesties service in securing the correspondance by letters through his Maiesties dominions to continue the present Deputy Postmaster upon the same terms the now serve, for halfe yeare comencing June ye 24th next I doe desire you to deliver the inclosed deputation and instructions signed by me to John Pares of your Town of Leicester, after you have seene him the said John Pares signe and seale the bond and instructions therewith sent, with one sufficient person his security, as you shall thinck fitt in your Judg-ment and good affection to his Maiesties service And to returne the said bond and instruction, signed sealed and delivered to my use by ye next post, to the Generall Post Office in London, or an account, and for this trouble, you have the heartie thanks of

Your assured friend

Arlington.

Letter Office London

In case Mr Pares be come to London return all these papers back to me by this post. If not take his bond and send it me and the instructions which he is to signe to me shalbe sent here for him to signe.

Sir stayeing for ye instructions Mr Pares is to signe occasioned the staye of all untill this day being the 2 of May 1667.

Answered by Mr Maior according to the direccions the 4th of May and that day returned by the post to Mr James Hicks an officer belonging to the Generall post office.

DCCLXXIII. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XVI, No. 191. [27 May 1667.] It is ordered and agreed at this meeeting that if Mr John Newton now vicar of St Margarets in Leicester procure Mr Thomas Pestell now Confrator to resigne his Confratorship unto him the said Mr Newton That then the said Mr John Newton shall be Lecturer of this Burrough and to have such allowance from the said Burrough as shall bee settled upon him at a Common Hall.

DCCLXXIV. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XVI, No. 266. [22 Nov. 1667.] Whereas there was an order made in the Maioralty of Mr Daniell Deken That [illegible] Mr Maior and his successors the summe of Twenty pounds a yeare to bee paid halfe yearly [as] a further addicion to their former allowance Mr Maior now being considering the greate [illegible] the Corporacion is willing to abate the said 20*li* for this yeare and putting [illegible]. It is at this hall agreed that from [this time the] former order shall bee made null and voide and the said Twenty pounds per annum from henceforth taken away and [shall not be] allowed to any succeeding Maior.

DCCLXXV. *Voting at Common Hall*

Hall Papers XVI, No. 267. [22 Nov. 1667.] Whether there shall be 24^{tie} of the 24^{tie} and 24^{tie} of the eldest of the 48^{tie} chosen Commissioners for this yeare according to the direccions in the charter or soe many as of late times have usually beene chosen

1. 48	} 30 votes.
or No. 25	} 23 votes.

Whether all ye Aldermen that have beene Maiors shall provide them Scarlett Gownes to bee worne on the usuall and accustomed daies as heretofore.

54 yes. 5 no.

DCCLXXVI. *Meeting of Mayor and Commissioners*

Hall Papers XVI, No. 277. [17 Jan. 1667/8.] It is ordered at this meeeting that the difference betweene Mr Hartshorne and Mr Sutton and betweene Mr Francis Coulman and Mr Henry Coulson concerning the takeing two lineings of the Southfeild farmed sh[all be] putt to vote by Tickett whoe shall bee the future Tenants for the same and those that cannott write shall [apply] to the Towne Clarke to write their names for them.

DCCLXXVII. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1666-67**Fees, Wages, etc.*

Item paid the Drumers and Trumpetters when the peace with the Dutch etc. was proclaymed *ii*l*. iijs.*

Item paid the ringers for the Marquesse of Newcastles coming to the towne *vs.*

Item paid Hartshorne for roses to lay in Gainsborow *ijd.*

Item paid Christopher Norrice for goeing to Loughborough in the night when the Towne was on fire, for himselfe and horse hire *iijs.*

Item paid to the Inhabitants of Loughborough towards their present relieve after the fire by order of a Common Hall *xvi*l*.*

Item paid to Parsons and Brucke masons for repaire of the Bow bridg as appeares by bill *xvi*l*. xijs.*

Item paid to Anthony Bradbury for repaireing the hill where the burne Carts fetch water at the west bridg by Mr Maiors order *xv*l*.*

Item paid for workmanship lyme, stone, brick and carriage in and about mending St Augustins Well per Mr Maiors order *ij*l*. xiiijs. viij*d*.*

	<i>£ s. d.</i>
Whole Charge	8 <i>77</i> . 5. 11.
Discharge	9 <i>45</i> . 4. 7 <i>½</i> .
Allowed	4. 7. 0.
Due to Chamberlain's	7 <i>2</i> . 5. 8 <i>¼</i> .

DCCLXXVIII. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XVI, No. 292. [17 April 1668.] It is ordered and agreed at this meeeting that all those Aldermen that have beene Maiors shall weare their Scarlett Gownes upon the daies hereafter mencioned yearely (vizt) Upon May day to walke the faire Christmas Day Easter Day and on Easter Munday Whitson Sunday, and Whitson Munday, the nine and twentieth day of May St Mathew Day, Michaelmas Day

to walke the faire, and the Munday after Martinmas upon Payne of every one that neglects to waire his Scarlett Gowne to forfeit and pay to the Chamberlaines for the time being to the use of the Corporacion the summe of two shillings sixpence. And it is alsoe ordered that both the Companies shall attend Mr Mayor on both the faire daies aforesaid, Whitson Munday and the 29th of May in their respective formalities upon paine of the 24^{tie} to forfeite 2s. and the 48^{tie} 1s. a peece for their neglect to bee paid as aforesaid.

It is alsoe ordered that the rest of ye Company of the foure and twenty that have not beene Maiors shall accompany Mr Maior and the rest of the Aldermen upon all and every the other Scarlett dayes, vitz, Mayday, Christmas Day Easter Day Whit Sunday and the Munday after Martinmas upon Payne to forfeit for every default ijs. The meeetings upon the severall daies aforesaid to bee at the towne Hall by Eight of the Clock in the forenoone forfeiting the penalties aforesaid.

It is ordered at this meeeting that Mr Maior for the time being shall appoint some learned minister to preach a sermon at St Maryes Church or some other Church if hee shall think fitt upon the Munday Mr Maior taketh his oath at the Castle.

DCCLXXIX. Meeting of Mayor and Justices

Hall Papers XVI, No. 297. [? April 1668.] Whereas Widowe Parsons * * is runne away from her five children and left them to bee provided for at the charge of the parish of All Saints. And whereas by reason * * Richard Parsons came out of the parish of S. Margaretts to keepe the Goale for the Burrough and according to the settlement of the Maior and Justices.

Therefore not to over charge the said parish of All Saints It is ordered and agreed at this meeeting that the said five children shall bee mayntayned and disposed of as followeth (vitz) the eldest of the said children by the parish of St Martins, the second by the parish of St Margaretts and the youngest by the parish of All Saints and the two other to bee provided for by the Corporacion.

DCCLXXX. Letter to the Lord Lieutenant from the Privy Council

Hall Papers XVI, No. 334. [29 Sep. 1668.] * * Wee are com-manded to acquaint your Lordship That his Maiestie haveing received frequent Informacion that divers persons formerly displaced by the Commissioners for regulating Corporacions and others, doe without takeing the oath and declaracion appointed by the Statute of 13th of

his Maiesties reigne endeavour to bee elected and readmitted Maiors Bayliffs and other officers in their respective Cittys and Burroughs of this Kingdome, thereupon wee have by his Maiesties Command directed our letters to the High Sheriff of the County of Leicester whereof you are his Maiesties Lieutenant declareing it to bee his Maiesties pleasure, that hee signifie unto all and every City and Towne Corporate therein That henceforward they doe not admitt, any person or persons into any office in any of the said Corporacions but according to the rules prescribed in the Act of Parliament, And to the end this may have the better effect, his Maiestie hath further commanded us to pray your Lordship by your prudent and vigilant care to observe how the said Cityes and Corporacions doe or shall behave them selves in this particuler and as occasion shall bee to give his Maiestie an account thereof, To the end if they have complyed with his Maiesties iust pleasure herein They may have his Maiesties thanks and favour or otherwise such proceedings to be had against the Infringers as may best conduce to the Honor and safety of his Maiesties Government.

[Signed by Canterbury, Midleton, Clifford, Craven, Carbery, Arlington, Coventry, Huncomb, London, W^m Morrice, Jo Berkley, Thos Ingram.]

DCCLXXXI. *Petition of Company of Cordwayners*

Hall Papers XVI, No. 293. [No date.] Sheweth That severall abuses being dayly offered unto your Peticioners * * enforces them to supplicate your Worshipps for redresse, you being the onely persons whom the Statute of the first of King James impowers and wee by your derivative power, have officers sworne and commanded to scrutiny into the Art and mistery of well tanning and ordering of Leather The ill ususage whereof grows daily * * And when wee complayne thereof to those that neglect to bring their Leather to the place your Worshipps have now appoynted for that purpose * * they cavell and say it is not a free hall According to the said Statute and soe by that meanes wee cannot enforce the duty from them accordyng To the Law * * Wee humbly pray your Worshipps to encourage our Trade and settle us according to Law in a convenient place or hall soe by you nominated and appoynted freely and without any manner of rent or payment for the same, that thereby the Mouths of the Gainesayers may bee stopped * * wee humbly conceive that noe place * * can bee found in the Towne to bee soe convenient and fitt than that which wee already use * * The granting whereof will very much tend to your honors benefitt and advantage of all others * *

DCCLXXXII. *Petition of Edward Lee, Bodymaker*

Hall Papers XVI, No. 357. [No date.] Sheweth That your Peticioner has beene a householder and lived and inhabited within this Burrough for severall yeares past, and dureing all the time hath paid what duties hath beene imposed upon him. And your Peticioner haveing his calleing of Tayler and taken up the said trade or way of Bodymakeing, has been occasioned to spend much money to gayne acquaintance for the vending his Commodities besides a certaine summe of money agreed to bee paid to the Company of Taylers within this Burrough, for the freedome of their Company, And now your Peticioner haveing by his Industry gotten the acquaintance of persons of Honor and other Gentlewoman besides away of trade with shopp keepers and others is very desireous to bee a settled person within this Burrough and to followe his said Trade without giveing offence to any * * Your Peticioner therefore humbly beseecheth your good Worshipps * * to grannt your Peticioner the freedome of this anncient Burrough * *

Granted to pay 10*l.*

DCCLXXXIII. *Petition of Waites*

Hall Papers XVI, No. 360. [No date.] Sheweth That your Peticioners being informed that heretofore your worshipps have allowed unto the Waites of this Corporacion Chaines and Cognizances to bee distinguished from the Waites of other Corporacions, whoe in such like manner are furnished

Your petitioners haveing president from all parts aswell as heretofore used in this anncient Corporacion to the great Honor and respecte thereof, are imboldened humbly to begg your Worshipps would bee pleased to extend the same favor to your petitioners or soe many as you shall thincke fitt the which shalbee faithfully preserved for your Worshipps use and command.

DCCLXXXIV. *Petition of John Roberts, Gentleman*

Hall Papers XVI, No. 364. [No date.] Sheweth That your Peticioner togeather with the rest of the Trade of Tanners time out of mind, had the selling of their Wares within this Borough and that noe forraigners nor stranger was admitted to expose to sale any of his goods or wares within this Burrough, untill the usurped times, and in the last

Maioraltie of M^r Richard Ludlam, which abuse has often beene desired by your peticioner and others to bee rectified Butt your peticioner finding noe redresse therein, and still is obligeid to waite upon you in his place, which is much to his losse, in regard hee cannot receive the benefitt and advantage of his calling, as heretofore other of his predecessors have done.

Therefore beggs your favour for a dismission from the said Company society and future attendance therein, with that free voluntary and canded respects as others lately have obteyned.

Read and not allowed.

DCCLXXXV. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1667-68*

Other Receipts etc.

Item received of Thomas Gill for a peece of Burgesse meadow in his occupacion which ye towne purchased with the guift of M^r Thomas Gilbert deceased being one hundred pounds and moneys taken out of the Chamber of the Towne per Annnm v*l.* x*s.*

[List of fines from farmers amounting to £590. 10*s.* Not interesting in themselves but it is a new and rather important item.]

Charitable Guifts.

Item paid to the poore of the old hospitall being the guift of M^r Tayler to buy them oatmeale i*jl.*

Memorandum y^t this money is paid out of the Towne stock this yeare, in regard it cannot at present begotten of M^r Taylers heire.

Fees Wages etc.

Item paid to the 5 waites for two quarters wages at a noble a quarter a peece i*jl.* v*s.* viii*d.*

Item paid to David Price for two daies worke for cleansing the Leades of St Maries Chancell is. iii*jd.*

Item paid to William Cockle per M^r Maiors order for ringing 4 and 9 aclock bell i*js.* v*jd.*

Item paid at ye meeeting of M^r Wadland at ye Roundheads Inn for beare and tobacco i*js.*

Repaires.

Item paid more to John Vesey for mending bridges upon Galloway Cawsey as appeares by bill i*js.* v*jd.*

Item paid to him (the Cryer) more for perfumes for Gaynesborow after ye souldiers had kept Court of Guard there *vjd.*

Item paid to M^r Lincolne for bynding of severall booke being the guift of Sir Thomas Doleman *il.*

Item paid to John Hall Tyn man for fetching eight booke from Enderby which Sir Thomas Doleman gave to the Library *ijs.*

Item paid to M^r Callis for a banquett presented to the Bishop at the Angell as appears by bill *iijl. xixs. iiijd.*

Item paid to M^r Francis Ward for booke and newes this yeare as appears by bill *iijl. xvijs.*

Wyne and Guifts.

Item paid for ye Chamberlaines charges for horses and other expences when they went to Uttoxeter for ye 100 markes for ye old hospitall *il. xvjs. ijd.*

	<i>L.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Whole Charge	1355.	9.	5½.
Discharge	1306.	18.	11½.
Allowed	3.	9.	7¾.

DCCLXXXVI. Meeting of Mayor and Justices

Hall Papers XVI, No. 373. [30 April 1669.] Whereas by vertue of an order of the last Generall Sessions of the peace holden for this Burrough It was ordered that the farmers and Collectors of the fire hearthes or such of them as are agents therein should have notice to appeare before us at this meeteing, there to shew good cause to us why the said Court should not concurr with the orders of the Country Justices concerneing Brewers and Smiths, And if wee finde cause or think fitt upon heareing proofes and allegaciones on both sides, to determine the same, and confirme the said orders, Notice being given to M^r Hargrave one of the officers or agents for the collecting the money due for fire hearths etc. who accordingly appeareing before us, and made some defence but not soe satisfactory as to convince us why the said orders should not be confirmed. Wee doe therefore order that the Brewers and Smiths of this Borough shall have orders made as full and effectually as the Brewers and Smiths in the Country have by the Justices of the peace of the Country at their last Generall Sessions held for the said Country.

[Hall Papers unbound A, No. 129. [30 Nov. 1665.] Letter to Justices of the Peace protesting against the small sum collected for Hearth money and urging care and diligence in collecting the tax.]

DCCLXXXVII. *Expenses of Richard Barton at Cambridge*

Hall Papers XVI, No. 376. [20 May 1669.]

Admission money	17	6
Caution money	5	0
Entrance for ye 1 quarter his chamber	17	6
His Tutorage	1	0
Gowne Cappe and Surpless	4	0
Bookes		
Carriage for bookes and bedding and journeys		
Sising for the 1 quarter		
Expended already upon journeys and horse hire	3	0
Ordered five pounds.		

DCCLXXXVIII. *Meeting of the Commissioners*

Hall Papers XVI, No. 408. [28 Jan. 1669/70?] Whereas Thomas Pochin Esq^r high Sherife of this County hath a desire to keepe his sherriffes house in the Townes great house commonly called the Lords place for one or both of the Assizes this yeare, the rent thereof he referrs to the Commissioners for the Corporacion It is therefore agreed at this meeteing that the said Sherriffs shall have that parte of the great house late in the occupacion of Henry Hungate Esq^r for the next lent Assizes paying to the Corporacion for the use of the said house for the said Assizes the summe of foure pounds; And if the Corporacion doe not lett or sett the said house to somme tenant before Summer Assizes next That then the said Sheriff shall have the use of the said house for that Assizes paying for the said house that Assizes Toure pounds more, hee makeing good all manner of goods windowes doors or any other things that shall happen to bee broken, or otherwise spoyled destroyed or wasted for or by reason of the said high Sherriffes keepeing his house there.

It is alsoe ordered and agreed at this meeteing that Mr Robert Hartshorne shall have liberty to plow about six or seaven acres of the close now in his occupacion called the forty acres forest ground for the terme of two yeaeres from Ladiday next ensueing the date hereof at the yearlye rent he now holds the same at.

DCCXXXIX. *Letter from Richard Marryott*

Hall Papers XVI, No. 407. [6 Dec. 1669.] Gentlemen, I am commanded by her Maiestie the Queen Consorts Councell to signify unto you that upon A Particular lately made out by the Auditor of the Duchy upon the petition of Mr Wells Assignee of one Coleman of A Lease made by his late Maiestie King Charles to him of the Courts and Perquisites of Courts within the Honor of Leicester in that County (whereof there is about 3 yeares to come) desiring to take A further terme of her Maiesty (the same being parcell of her Joynture) They finde that the Mayor Bayliffes and Burgesses of your Towne did about the same time take a lease of the Courts and Perquisites of Courts within the Towne of Leicester of his then Maiestie which is alsoe neare Expiring and parcell alsoe of her Maiesties Joynture And that they intend to Lease the same together with the Courts and Perquisites of Courts in the County unlesse you thinke fitt to take A further Terme of the Courts and Perquisites thereof in your Towne And in case you Resolve to take a further Terme That you Imploy some person to Treat and Contract with them by the beginning of the next Terme In the Interim your answer to the Premisses directed to mee att Arundell house in the Strand without Temple Barr London is desired by

Your humble Servant
Richard Marryott.

DCCXC. *Meeting of the Mayor and Brethren*

Hall Papers XVI, No. 394. [No date.] It is ordered and agreed at this meeeting that Mr Edward Browne the Townes Solicitor shall againe a copy of the Lease to one Coleman from the Dutchie of the perquisites of Courts etc. and to treate with the officers of the Dutchy in order to the reneweing that Lease to the Corporacion. And that a letter be written to Mr Clarke to doe us the favour to the Chancellor of the dutchy in that behalfe.

DCCXCI. *Petition of "severall of the Apothecaries of the Burrough of Leicester"*

Hall Papers XVII, No. 10. [No date.] Sheweth, That your petitioners are informed one Samuell Brown an Apothecary intends at this Hall to petition to your Worshipps for the freedome of this Burrough, by which great inconveniences would ensue, both as to

your petitioners and others, his Trade and Commerce not onely consisting in the trade of an Apothecary butt hee much incroacheth upon the Grocers in selling many of their Commodities, and if hee should gaine your Worships favour herein and purchase the same by a round summe of mony yett it is to gain a greater, by taking an Apprentice, by which meanes our poor trade will bee still lessened by increasing the number soe fast. And your petitioners have beene informed that the said Samuell Browne hath not served as an Apprentice to the said trade Seaven yeares according to Lawe, but purchased part thereof, and if hee should soe fraudulently and deceitfully deal with others, it must unavoidably bee very iniurious to us that have served faithfully our Apprenticeshipps and make our declyneing ages unhappy and those whom already have or hereafter shall Educate that way * * Wee hope your Worshipps will not permitt us to bee robbed of our livelyhoods but * * will still defend and uphold your petitioners Priviledges.

DCCXCII. *Petition of Samuel Browne, Apothecary*

Hall Papers XVI, No. 415. [No date.] Sheweth, That your petitioner haveing served an Apprentishipp with M^r Juxon Apothecary in Hinckly is very desireous to exercise his trade and calling in this Burrough if it may stand with your Worshipps good favour to graunt your petitioner the freedome thereof.

Agreed not fitt to bee read the Peticioner being a Quaker.

DCCXCIII. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1668-69*

[The accounts for this year are missing.]

DCCXCIV. *Letter to Sir Thomas Ingram*

Hall Papers XVI, No. 459. [10 Sep. 1670.]

Right Honorable,

Wee most thankfully acknowledge your Honours favour and respects to us expressed in your letter of the fourth of August last, which wee could not well answeare untill wee had conveniently assembled our two companies to lett them know your honors pleasure therein. Upon readeing whereof wee finde them very ready to answeare any of your Honours requests, And wee hope in that particuler, if it lies in their power, which is very doubtfull in regard the privilidge the King was pleased to graunt to this Corporacion by Charter about two hundred yeares agone, and severall times since then confirmed for

electing of Burgesses by the two select Companies onely, was at the last Eleccion putt out of that good way and order by introducing tumultuary Eleccion by all the freemen and Commoners. But wee hope, and doe implore that your Honor will stand our friends, to endeavour our auncient privilidge may bee restored. And then wee can assure your Honor wee shall not faile to show our due respects to your Honor upon all occasions * * And your Honors favour herein will ever oblige us.

Andrew Freeman Maior

Alex. Baker Franc. Noble

Dan. Deaken W^m Callis

W^m Alsop Edm: Townsend

DCCXCV. Letter from W^m Hartopp, M.P.

Hall Papers XVII, No. 7. [12 Nov. 1670?.]

Sir * * *

This morning Sir John Prittymans business was brought into the hous and upon some debate it was caried that Sir John shall appear before the hous on munday morning next; I doe supose hee may receive some such woords from the speaker as the hous shall order; But I am most confident hee will not be expelled the hous; and I am very glad of it for a new elexion would not onely have devided the Corporation but all the gentlemen in our County would have given a preuidice to each other.

DCCXCVI. Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen

Hall Papers XVII, No. 17. [13 Jan. 1670/1.] It is ordered and agreed at this meeeting, That Robert Atton one of the Company of ye Eight and forty, shall from henceforth bee dismissed from serveing as a member of the said Company and another to bee nominated and chosen in his roome; by reason the said Robert Atton refuseth to come to ye Church on ye Lords Day eyther to heare divine service, or sermon and for other misdemeanors.

DCCXCVII. A legal point relating to Conventicles

Hall Papers XVII, No. 56. [23 March 1670/1.] Upon the Twelfth day of February last being Sunday Thomas Ludlam one of the Constables of the Burrough of Leicester John Vesey and Thomas Laxton Churchwardens of the Parish of All Saints in the said Burrough

being informed of a Conventicle or meeeting to bee held in a house in the said Parish, about two of the Clocke in the Afternoone of the same day went to the said house where they found severall persons mett togeather and of those two men and Eight Woemen whose names they learned being then and there sitting and standing in the said house, butt they heard noe praying or preaching by any person. The Maior of the said Burrough humbly praies your Lordshipps Judgement and advice whether this meeeting may bee accounted a Conventicle according to Act of Parliament.

This was delivered to Judge Wyndham by Mr Recorder upon the bench at the Guild Hall of the Burrough of Leicester ye 23^{tie} of March 1670.

His Lordshipps opinion was it was not a conventicle within the Statute if nothing more appeared, and if Mr Maior and Justices should make a warrant of distresse there might bee an accion of distresse brought against the officers.

DCCXCVIII. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XVII, No. 29. [? 1670.] At this meeeting it is ordered and agreed that the five pounds allowed to the Chamberlaines at a Common Hall held the [*illegible*] day of February 1662: in the Maioralty of Mr Daniell Deaken for the better carrying on of their office shalbee taken of [and shall] not bee allowed to the present or succeeding Chamberlaines.

At this meeeting it is ordered and agreed That for the prevencion of many inconveniences which formerly hath happened [*illegible*] hath beene the practice of divers members (as is conceived) to discover the secretts and debates at Halls and meeetings That if any [member] of eyther of the Companies shall at any time hereafter publish or disclose any of the occurrancies, debates or secrett conclusions, made or done at any Common Hall or other meeting whatsoever, which may tend to the preuidice of this Corporacion [that then] every such person or persons of eyther of the said Companies committing any such offence and it being proved before Mr Maior for the time being by two or more credible witnesses of it shall forfeite and pay the summe of Twenty pounds; (*ipso facto*) and if any person or persons aforesaid [*illegible*] proove made as aforesaid, refuse to pay the said summe of Twenty pounds That then such person or persons shall [be] prosecuted for the same by such legall waies and meanes as Councell learned in the Lawe shall direct advise [*illegible*].

DCCXCIX. *Voting at Common Hall*

Hall Papers XVII, No. 48. [No date.] Question whether the former order for payment of forty shillings by such Aldermen as have beeene Maiors for neglecting to provide a Scarlett Gowne shalbe bee [sic] recovered by Lawe or otherwise shall bee put in execucion ; or whether any person now of that number or which hereafter shall bee of that number refuseth to provide a scarlett gowne shall pay ten pounds—to bee as aforesaid.

40s.—8 votes,
10*l*i.—44 votes.

Question whether all persons of the two Companies shall with their wives bee at the dynner upon the twenty ninth day of May next and soe for the future paying two shillings every man whether hee comes or not

Yes 44 votes,
No 9 votes.

DCCC. *Petition of "Samuell Dawes, Tayler"*

Hall Papers XVII, No. 26. [No date.] Sheweth. That your peticioner being very desireous to bee an Inhabitant of this Burrough, and to work of his Trade * * did heretofore move the Company of Taylers for the freedome to worke according to their usuall and accustomed manner, the which your peticioner attained at a very high value, and submitted to their fine of Twelve pounds which hee paid for the purchase thereof, and your peticioner being informed that halfe the said summe accrued to the Towne doubted not, butt hee might have wrought of his Trade without disturbance, yett since your peticioner has found the contrary, and perceives hee cannot work as Master-man without hee may obteyne the freedome of the Burrough.

Therefore humbly praiers your Worshippes to consider your peticioners Condicion, and at what great rate hee has already purchaced that small liberty * * and grant him the liberty to bee a freeman of this Burrough upon such easie fine and payment thereof as your peticioners present estate requires.

Read and graunted paying 20*l*i.

DCCCI. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1669-70**Rents increased etc.*

Item of Thomas Pochin Esqr for ye great house for two assizes to keepe his Sheriffalty in viijl.

Fees, Wages, etc.

Item in Mr Receiver Desburrowes hand which hee stopped of 49l. 7d. which hee should have paid at Leicester upon ye Audit and still remaining in his hands 7l. 7d.

Item paid to Mr Dyson for ye 10l. Queene Elizabeth gave to ye head usher vijs.

Item paid to Francis Innings and Richard Griffin Carpenters for plancks boards and workmanship for mending ye bridges upon ye Galloway Cawsey and ye Pillorey as appeares by Bill xvjs. iiid.

Item paid to ye Cryer and Beadle for lookeing to ye Conduit when ye Mountybancks were in Towne last ijs.

Item paid to him [Francis Noble late Chamberlain] more which Mr Desborow the Receiver deteyned in his hands for fees for ye hospitall v'l. xijs.

Supers Allowed.

Item to Josiah Bond Clerk for ye small tithes of St Maries 3s. 4d.

	<i>£ s. d.</i>
Charge	1025. 17. 1.
Discharge	0825. 08. 09.
Allowed	0015. 03. 00 $\frac{3}{4}$.
Due to Towne	0187. 12. 03 $\frac{1}{2}$.

DCCCII. *Endowment of a Riding Academy in Leicester*

Hall Papers XVII, No. 119. [31 Jan. 1671/2.] John Dillington [illegible] about the Last of January 1671/2 gives to the Mayor and Aldermen of Leicester; one hundred Eighty five Pounds per Annum (Upon which is 500*l.* morgage) which is to be taken of and the Remainder to bee disposed of for erecting An Academy in Leicester; for the teaching young gentlemen to Ryde the Great Horse; fence: Vault and other Exercises: and none to be admitted there: but noble Persons Sonnes or heires to 500*l.* per annum.

This to be Compleated in tenn yeares if not then the Earle of Rutland, the Earle of Stanfورد, the Earle of Alisberry, the Earle of Lindsey the lord Vycount Camdin Lord Mountague of Boughton Lord Roose and Lord Sherrard are to see it don in one yeare and in Case they faile; then Mr William Perpoint of Nottingham, to see it don in one yeare after or else the Estate to Return to the heirs of the said John Dillingham.

DCCCIII. *Sale of Town lands*

Box 14. No. 8. [1670/1.] [*Written outside.*] Lands sold in the Maioralty of M^r William Deane. 1670 : 1671.

Dean! Dean Double Dean
 the child that is to bear
 Shall curse the time when that rogue
 Dean was Mayor
 For cutting of the stroke and selling the
 Towne land
 And putting the money into squinting
 Pollards hand.

Lands sould in the Maioralty of M^r William Deane 1670 and 1671
 And alsoe divers cheife rents.

1. To John Davy Jersey Comber a Cottage or Tenement in Holyrood Lane late in ye tenure of William Moseley in fee simple	ixl.	21. 00. 00
1. To William Savage a Messuage Cottage or Tenement in Belgrave gate in fee simple		
To George Beeby a messuage Cottage or Tenement in the high streeete in fee simple		18. 00. 00
To William Hardy a messuage cottage or tenement in Belgrave gate late lett in lease to John Elliman and now sold in fee simple to the said W ^m Hardy		
Item to M ^r William Southwell a house in Loseby Lane adioyeinge to his in fee simple		24. 00. 00
Item to William Ward the younger a house in the High Streete late in Margery Woodcocks occupation		
[The last two entries above are crossed out.]		20. 00. 00
		16. 00. 00

*Fee farm and cheife Rents sold in the Maioralty of M^r William
Deane. Anno 1670 and 1671.*

Imprimis to William Ward the younger severall fee farme rents and cheife Rents at sixteene yeares purchase being i <i>li.</i> vii <i>s.</i> viii <i>d.</i> per annum	22. 18. 8
Item to John Page the elder of xv <i>s.</i> per annum issueing out of ye Tenement in his occupacion	12. 16. 0
Item to Robert Pearson of Frisby of xi <i>s.</i> per annum issueing out of Tenement in the north gate	09. 12. 00
Item to M ^r William Frank severall farmes out of severall Lands and tenements for	24. 10. 08

<i>Item</i> to Mr Nicholas Johnson a fee farme of 15 <i>s.</i> per annum	12. 00. 00
<i>Item</i> to James Lee a fee farme of 17 <i>s. 2d.</i> per annum	13. 14. 08
<i>Item</i> to Richard Charleton a fee farme of 16 <i>s.</i>	12. 16. 00
<i>Item</i> to John Pare of the City of London Lynnen Draper a fee farme of 20 <i>s.</i> per annum	16. 00. 00
<i>Item</i> to Anne Warner of Humberston widow a fee farme of 13 <i>s. 4d.</i>	10. 13. 4
<i>Item</i> to John Cotes Baker a fee farme of 5 <i>s.</i> issueing out of Greenehams house	04. 00. 00
<i>Item</i> to William Somerfeild of the Beaumont Leys a fee farme of 20 <i>s.</i> out of ye house in ye occupacion of John Denshire	16. 00. 00
<i>Item</i> to Mr John Claya fee farme of 20 <i>s.</i> per annum issueing out of a messuage in the occupacion of William Stretton	16. 00. 00
<i>Item</i> to Thomas Simpson the younger a fee farme of six shillings and eightpence issueing out of a house in the Churchgate	05. 06. 08
<i>Item</i> to Richard Foster the younger of Knighton a fee farme rent of six shillings and twopence issueing out of a halfe yard land there	04. 18. 08
<i>Item</i> to Thomas Ward Sherman a fee farme rent of Eightene shillings issueing out of all yt messuage or Tenement in ye Belgrave gate late Peter Wards, and a fee farme of two shillings out of a peece of ground in frier Lane, and a cheife of nine pence issueing out of a peece of ground betweene milstone Lane and frier Lane	16. 12. 00
<i>Item</i> to Joseph Roberts a fee farme of six shillings and eight pence issueing out of a house at St Sundaies bridg	5. 06. 08
<i>Item</i> to William Loseby Sherman a fee farme of Ten shil- lings issueing out of a house of Henry Mugg in the Senvy Gate	08. 00. 00
<i>Item</i> to Edward Malson a fee farme of twenty shillings, and a fee farme of five shillings	20. 00. 00
<i>Item</i> to John Mason a fee farme of Ten shillings out of a house in the high streete	08. 00. 00
<i>Item</i> to Jcseph Lem of the City of London Bricklayer a fee farme rent of twenty shillings out of a house in high streete late Greenes	16. 00. 00
Mem: the Counter-part to be sent to London to bee sealed the which George Sheeres has undertaken and was given to him to y ^t end	

<i>Item to William Stacy a fee farme of sixteene shillings and Eight pence issueing out of a Tenement in the swines markett now in his occupacion</i>	13. 06. 08
<i>Item to William Worth of Humberstone a fee farme of fifteene shillings issueing out of the messuage or Tene-ment in his occupacion</i>	12. 00. 00
<i>Item to William Alsop gent severall fee farme rents of 17s. 9d. per annum</i>	14. 04. 00
<i>Item to William Hardris</i>	
<i>Item to Robert Hickling gent severall fee farmes and cheif rents</i>	16. 00. 00
<i>Item to Mr James Ludlam severall fee farme Rents</i>	50. 05. 4
<i>Item to Henry Wesson a fee farme of twelve shillings per annum</i>	18. 02. 08
	09. 12. 00
<i>Item to Mr Jonathan Clay several fee farme Rents of 1l. 5s. per annum</i>	20. 00. 00
<i>Item to Mr John Hinde severall fee farme Rents of one pound nine shillings and eight pence per annum</i>	23. 14. 08
<i>Item to William Harris Chandler a fee farm of 16s. 8d. per annum and a cheife of xd.</i>	14. 00. 00
<i>Item to John Black and Sarah Bullivant a fee farme rent of five shillings per annum</i>	04. 00. 00
<i>Item to widow Boylsten a fee farme of one shilling per annum</i>	00. 16. 00
<i>Item to Mary Palmer with one yearely fee farme rent of 6s. and another of 3s.</i>	07. 14. 03
<i>Item to Anne Dexter cheife rent of 3s.</i>	2. 13. 04
<i>Item to William Bale gent severall fee farme rents and cheife rents</i>	17. 06. 08
<i>Item to Edward Malson severall fee farme and cheife rents</i>	35. 01. 00
<i>Item to John Pares a fee farme rent of 8s.</i>	06. 08. 00
<i>Item to William Ing Esqr severall fee farme and cheif rents</i>	56. 18. 8
<i>Item to Mr Samuell Burrowes a fee farme rent of 15s. per annum</i>	12. 00. 00
<i>Item to Susannah Eyrick a fee farme rent of 13s. 4d.</i>	10. 13. 4
<i>Item to Joyce and Mary Wilson a fee farme rent of 6s.</i>	05. 06. 08
<i>Item to Mr William Stubbins two several rents of 15s. 2d.</i>	12. 00. 00
<i>Item to Mr William Bentley and M^rs Mary Stanley severall fee farme and cheife rents of 1l. 10s. 2d. per annum</i>	24. 02. 08
<i>Item to M^r Ben Billers a fee farme rent of 6s. 8d.</i>	5. 6. 8

<i>Item to Mr William Southwell a house in Loseby Lane</i>	20.	0.	0
adioyneing to his in fee simple			
<i>Item to David Deakin two fee farmes vitz one 6s. 8d. and</i>	10.	02.	08
ye other 6s. per annum			
<i>Item a lease to Edward Pollard of ye meadow next to</i>	05.	00.	00
the Newark Mills for 21 ^{tie} yeares from Ladiday last per			
annum 5l. fine			
<i>Item to Anne Wilkins a fee farme of 10s.</i>			
<i>Item to William Ward ye younger a fee farme of the mes-</i>	10.	13.	4
suage or Tenement late William Simpsons 13s. 4d. per			
annum			
<i>Item to Mrs Johnson widdow two rents of 8s. 10d. per annum</i>	07.	01.	04
<i>Item to William Ward the younger in fee simple a mes-</i>			
suage late in the tenure of Margery Woodcock in con-			
sideracion of			16 <i>li.</i>
<i>Item to Joane Wilkes widdow a fee farme of 20s. per</i>			
annum			16. 00. 00
<i>Item to Margaret Lynsey widdow a fee farme of a tene-</i>			
ment in her occupacion per annum 6s.			04. 16. 00.
<i>Item to Thomas West a fee farme rent of 6s. 8d. per annum</i>			
out of his house			05. 06. 8
<i>M^r William Maior for 3 rents</i>			11. 04. 0.
<i>James Palmer a cheife rent</i>			04. 00. 00
<i>William Jervis</i>			07. 04. 00
<i>M^r William Elliot</i>			13. 17. 04
<i>William Broadhurst</i>			16. 00. 00.
<i>M^r William Frank</i>			47. 06. 8.
<i>M^r John Norrice</i>			12. 12. 0.
<i>John Belgrave</i>			1. 18. 0.
<i>M^r William Coulterman</i>			1. 12. 0.
<i>James Palmer</i>			1. 0. 0.
<i>[No names]</i>	115.	14.	0.
	50.	0.	0.
	144.	4.	0.
	209.	16.	0.
	144.	?	0.
	174.	8.	0.
	63.	0.	0.
			200. 11. 0.
<i>A Lease to George Boyer of a shoe makers stall for</i>	ij <i>s.</i>		
21 ^{tie} yeares from Michaelmas 1671 rent per annum			

DCCCIV. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1670-71*

[Receipts from sale of fee farm rents amounting altogether to £908. 15s. 4d.]

Fees Wages etc.

Item paid to Robert Rowe musician and his company for playing at Michaelmas faire last by Mr Maiors order £1. 10s.

Item to John Mabbs for a Chamber pott and drinking boule for the Townes use 4s. 8d.

Charges of the Castle Mills.

Item paid to John Townesend milwright for sixteene daies worke at 1s. 4d. per diem £1. 1s. 4d.

Item paid to Thomas Pepper given to his sonne towards his settlement at Oxford allowed by a Common Hall £5.

Item paid to Mr Barton allowed by the same hall towards printing his psalmes £10.

Item paid to the Town Clarke for writeing the streeete booke 2s. 6d.

Repaires.

Item to John and George Browne and two Labourers and to Irish and his labourer for one whole weeks worke about the Cawseys leading to the Castle Mills and West bridg £1. 10s.

Item paid to William Norman and Edward Springthorpe labourers at the same worke for five daies 6s. 8d.

Item paid for their allowance in bread and beere 2s. 6d.

Item paid to Samuell Derrick for nine dayes work 10s. 6d.

Item paid to two labourers for nine daies a peece there about the same work 15s.

Item paid to Thomas Trentnam labourer for seaven daies and an halfe 5s. 3d.

Item for their allowance of bread and beere dureing all that time 4s. 6d.

Item paid to John and George Browne masons for six daies worke a peece done at the Cawsey leadeing to Newark Mills 14s.

Item to three labourers for six daies a peece for digging gravell and serveing them 15s.

Item paid to John Erp for clensing the Townsend poole 7s. 6d.

	£	s.	d.
Whole Account	1785.	18.	2
Discharge	1419.	7.	9
Supers	0017.	17.	6 $\frac{3}{4}$
due to Towne	0348.	12.	10 $\frac{1}{4}$

DCCCV. *John Bunyan's license*

Original Letters No. 84. [6 Oct. 1672.]

John Bunnyons License beares date the ninth day of May 1672 to teach as a congregationall person being of that perswasion in the house of Josias Roughead in the Towne of Bedford, or in any other place roome or house Licensed by his Maiestie Memorandum the said Bunnyon shewed his License to Mr Maior Mr Overing Mr Freeman, and Mr Browne being there present the vjth day of October 1672 being Sunday.

DCCCVI. *Information concerning treasonable talk*

Hall Papers XVII, No. 152. [10 Oct. 1672.] This Informant saith That * * upon the Eighth Day of this instant October he was at the Signe of the Dun Cow at Dunchurch in the said county of Warwicke in the company of [illegible] Bridgman of Castle Bramage aforesaid [illegible] Esqr, there being with [illegible] Mr Bridgeman two other persons whoe was Servants to the Lord Keeper the said Mr Bridgemans father * * and as they were drinking togeather hee heard the said Mr Bridgman say that his fathers two men (meaning the aforesaid two persons) one of them haveing beene a Captaine of Ollivers, should steale his Maiesties Crowne, and Convey it away into Holland, And [illegible] Mr Bridgman did say that the Lord Keeper would ioyne with John Richmond Duke of Rochister and the Lord Monk, to force his Maiestie into Scotland and cutt of his head, and that the Lord Monk would stick on the Skirts of the Stewarts because hee was dismissed of being Generall after his fathers Death And [illegible] Mr Bridgeman did further say in this Informants heareing that the Lord Arlington and the Lord Keeper would keepe the Stewarts (meaneing his Maiestie and his Royall Highnes the Duke of Yorke) [illegible] from agreeing with the Dutch unles they might have Eight Hundred Thousand Pounds, whereof his Maiestie should have butt two hundred and fifty Thousand pounds.

DCCCVII. *Letter from Sir John Pretyman*

Hall Papers XVII, No. 179. [8 March 1672/3.] Since I wrought his Maiestie sent for the house of Commons to the house of Lords, where his Maiestie made a most gratiouse speech to us declareinge by the word of a Kynge for the tyme to come hee will never suspend any Law, and hath likewise given full satisfaction to the last addresse our house made unto his Maiestie insoemuch that wee are abundantly pleased with this days worke both houses this day wayte uppon his Maiestie at Whytehall att 4 of the clocke to give his Maiestie thanks, and the bill money will be att an end munday next.

[Hall Papers XVII, No. 180. [8 March 1672/3.] Extract from the King's Speech made in reply to an address presented by the House of Commons. The King accepted the address and asked in return for immediate supplies in view of danger from abroad. He declared that "if there bee any scrupill remeyne with you concerning the suspension of penall Laws, I heare further fully promise you that what hath been done in that particuler shall not for the future be drawne * * * into consequence or example."]

The House of Commons resolved to return thanks for the King's gracious answer and invited the House of Lords to join with them in doing so.]

DCCCVIII. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XVII, No. 114. [? 1672.] Whereas Sir William Hartopp George Faunt Esqr. Richard Lister Richard Orton Esqrs in the name of themselves and the rest of the [Deputy] Leuitenants for the County of Leicester sent to the Corporacion to borrow one hundred pounds for and towards defrayinge ye charges [of the men] impressed for his Maiesties service; It is ordered and agreed by all members present; That one hundred pounds of ye Corporacion money remaineing in M^r Deanes hands shalbee lent to them upon good security, and that M^r Deane shall pay ye same unto such person they shall appoint to receive the same, upon sealeing of the bond.

DCCCIX. *Petition of Josiah Bond Vicar of S. Mary's*

Hall Papers XVII, No. 166. [No date.] Sheweth that your peticioner haveing had some Debts heretofore contracted upon him, the which your peticioner hath endeavoured many yeares to satisfie, and by your peticioners care hath discharged severall and endeavoured

to gaine moneys out of his small stipend to acquitt the rest, butt your petitioners profitts being much lessened, and charity of Parishioners come to a small value to what heretofore they was pleased to afford mee, cannott obteyne soe much money as to Release the anncyent Obligacons which lye against your petitioner: notwithstanding your petitioner makeing sale of many goods for payment thereof, and is in all likelihood to bee most miserable, if not relieved by your worshipps.

Your petitioner therefore humbly praiers your Worshippers to commiserate the deplorable condicione of your petitioner and relieve him with the summe of tenn pounds * * and your petitioner, upon Your Worshippers grannting this favour will never solicite or trouble your Worshippers for the future * *

To have 5*li.* out of ye Town if ye parish of St Maries and Inhabitants of the Newark will give him 5*li.* more.

DCCCX. *Meeting of Mayor and Commissioners*

Hall Papers XVII, No. 186. [? 1673.] It is ordered at this meeeting that the Chamberlaines for the time being, Edward Pollard, Robert Spencer John Mason and Thomas Tompson shall have power, and are here by desired, to looke after and have an inspeccion into the farmers of the southfeilds concerneing their plowing, and depastureing of and upon the Commons in the said feilds, and all other Commoners, that they doe nothing contrary to the orders made betweene the said farmers and the freemen of the said Burrough, A copy of which orders are to be delivered to the Chamberlaines.

DCCCXI. *Letter from Robert Harding, Recorder*

Hall Papers XVII, No. 221. [13 June 1673.] * * If you would Gratify as befits you, those with whome your concernes oblige you. Sir let not your Brethren mistake mee, I meane not myself; But tis Requisite as Mr Deacon theare tould them the Chancellor of ye Dutchy should have bin wayted on and presented with a peice of plate of 20*l.* which at least I feare was expected: in default whereof you may spend twice as much. Sir as the tymes are, I see that men must save at home and bee noble abroade to buy peace and Reputacion with their superiors especially: however I will wayte on the Chancellor and if you will not give mee or your Sollicitor order, Ile present my owne service for your sake in a few Bottles.

DCCCXII. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1671-72*

Item received of the Deputy Lieutenants in part of one hundred pounds they borrowed of the Corporacion £44. 10s.

Fees Wages etc.

Item paid for wyne and Ale at the Crane when the Maior and viziters went to dispose of Mr Blunts shoes to the poore of the hospitall of the holy Trinity 4s. 8d.

Item paid to Richard Cave and William Cockle for the mending and layeing down the matting borrowed out of the Church for the prest men to lye on and for nailes for the same 2s.

Item paid for Ale and Tobacco when Mr Maior and Aldermen went to vizite the Archdeacon 5s. 6d.

Item paid for Ale and Tobacco when Mr Maior and other Aldermen was to view the accompte concerneing the hundred pounds of the benevolence money paid heretofore into the Towne hands 1s. 4d.

Item paid to the Towne souldiers for guarding the prest men, and Mr Norton according to order £15. 10s.

Item paid to M^rs Elizabeth Lincolne for newes bookes and other things this yeare—as appears by bill £3. 17s. od.

Item paid for two barrells of oysters presented to the Lord Roos 6s. 8d.

Item paid for Cloves to sweeten the Gaynesborrow after the souldiers had lain there 6d.

Item paid to Jacob Bothamley in recompense of Doctor Seaman for bookes he sent to the Liberary allowed him at a Common Hall 10s.

	£	s.	d.
Whole Account	870.	13.	09 $\frac{3}{4}$
Discharge	764.	04.	08
Allowed	018	09.	06 $\frac{1}{2}$
Due to Towne	087.	19.	10 $\frac{3}{4}$

DCCCXIII. *Letter from W^m Hartopp, M.P.*

Hall Papers XVII, No. 237. [10 Jan. 1673/4.] On Wednesday morning the Parliament mett * * There was great Calmness in the hous; and (I hope) it is a signe of a unanimity in that place, the contrary to which can be no less then ruine to us all: The Hous of Commons adiourned untill munday, that they might have time to concider of the great affayres depending The hous of Lords have this day petitioned the King, that all Roman Catholiques may bee sent tenn miles out of London; the hous holders excepted: A petition was

yesterday presented by the Earle of Westmoreland, concerning the Duke of Buckingham, subscribed by the Cheife of the Famalis of Shrewsbury and Cardigen. I doe beleieve the nexte weeke may produce something considerable; of the which you shall receive an account.

There was a verry great apeareance in the hous of Commond, more numerous, then I ere did see it heretofore.

DCCCXIV. *Letter from Sir John Pretyman*

Hall Papers XVII, No. 236. [25 Jan. 1673/4] * * on Munday after a long debate twas voted and ordered that the house should first proceed to releive greivances effectually, to secure the protestant religion libertyes and propertyes, to remove all papists and evill counsellers from about the Kinge and all other persons obnoxious and daungerous to the government after that wee voted thanks to bee given to His Maiestie for his gracious speech. On Tuesday morninge the Lord Lotherdale was voted a greivannce and ordered that the house should addresse to the Kinge to desire his Maiestie to the remove the said Duke from comeing to court, and from his presence for ever the same day the duke of Buckingham was questioned but hee sent a letter to the Speaker which letter was read in the house which was read [*sic*] where in hee did informe the house hee could discover something that would tend to the good of the publique soe that the house after a long debate called him in hee gave some light but discovered nothinge playnley soe the Duke withdrew and the house adiourned till Wednesday morninge and then the Duke came agayne and told the house many things chardged the Lord Arlington with advisinge the Kinge to fall uppon the Smyrna fleet and to breake the triple league and to prorogue the Parliament, and to make peace with the French, and likewise told the house that the Duke of Ormond had gotten 500,000*l.i.* and the Lord Arlington not altogether soe much but very neare and yett wee voted the Duke of Buckingham to bee removed from the Kinges presence and from all his imployments duringe pleasure this morninge the Lord Arlington sent a letter to the Speaker desiringe to bee heard in the house and after hee was heard what hee could say the house is adiourned till to-morrow morninge.

DCCCXV. *Letter from Mr Browne, solicitor*

Hall Papers XVII, No. 238. [7 Feb. 1673/4.] I had some conference this day with Mr Bigland touching the 2 mayne things insisted upon by your Adversaries 1. that the lands out of which your fee farm rent of 113*li.* per annum issues you are answerable to the Hospital for the improved value thereof 2. that all those lands granted by Queene Elizabeth to the Corporacion of Leicester are forfeited to the King for want of a licence to purchase in Mortmayne to both which he give me good satisfaccion.

DCCCXVI. *Letter from W^m Hartopp*

Hall Papers XVII, No. 241. [13 Feb. 1673/4.] The King came yesterdays to the hous of Lords in his Robes and aquainted Both hous, that hee had signed the peace with the States of Holland; which was Honorable, speedy, and hee hoped a lasting peace.

That Hee had taken order to disband more of the standing forces, then the Parliament had desired, and that hee hoped they would take care to strengthen his shiping.

DCCCXVII. *Petition of Stockingmakers*

Hall Papers XVII, No. 245. [No date.] Sheweth That the Petitioners have for divers yeares last past, employed themselves in the buying and combing of wooll and in getting the same to be spun and knit up into Stockings, to be sold to hosiers, and other Retailers by which meanes they have wrought up yearly about 200 Todds of wooll, used great quantityes of Oyle and Soap, and kept constantly at work about 2000 poore people Men, Women, and Children of the Towne of Leicester and adjacent Villages, to the great advantage of the Towne and Country, to the support of the Petitioners and their familyes, and to the inabling of them to beare a great part of the publick Taxes: And although the employment before mencioned is no Trade within any Statute, nor any man by Law prohibitted the exercise thereof in any Citie or Towne Corporate of England, Yet divers freemen of Leicester perceiving that the Petitioners have brought the said employment to a considerable Manufacture, do nowe endeavour to engrosse the same wholly to themselves, and to turne it into a monopoly and by unjustifiable ordinances to exclude the Petitioners

from the free exercise of their calling; And albeit that at the generall Sessions of the peace lately holden for the said Burrough, it was after serious advise and consultacion with the Grand Jury adjudged that it was Lawfull for the Petitioners to keep on their said employment, and ordered that they should not be molested therein, yet severall of the said freemen do attempt the procureing of some order of this Common Hall to hinder the Petitioners from the further exercise of their Calling. And for the accomplishing of their designes do use these false suggestions: That the Petitioners do not give the Spinners and Knitters sufficient wages, and so the work is slightly done, and the Commodity brought into discredit, but if the Petitioners may be prohibited and some of the freemen onely use the calling, they will give greater Wages. They will employ none but the best Spinners and Knitters, and they will have all the yarne wound on Clock reels that so it may be perceived whether good or not, and no Stockens made but such as shall be very good: To which the Petitioners do answer and humbly offer theis following consideracions. 1. That it is improbable that when a very great number of those that set the poor on worke shall be restrayned those few which are left shall give greater wages to the poore then are given now when the worke folks will be as many still and fewer masters to imploy them. 2. If the goodnes of the work be the thing the freemen aim at. They may now take the best worke folks, give greater wages if they please, make better worke and out sell the petitioners and none can hinder them. 3. If none but the best work folks be set on work, then the Children can never be taught, and the manufacture in short time will perish. 4. It is not the curious makeing of a few Stockens, but the generall makeing of many that is most for the publick good, for that sets more people on work, as well Children as others, and when the Stockens are made up and sorted there are amongst them some for all sorts of people and the buyer is able to Judge of them and to give prices accordingly. If none but fine Stockens be made the poore must go without. 5. And as to the Clock Reeles there will be great inconveniency in them; for every workwoman is to buy such a Reele, which many are not able to doe. And then when the yarn is Spun, it is halfe as much labor as the Spining to winde it on such a reele And when it is in Skaines from off the reele it is five times as much labor to double it out of the Skaine as it would be to do it off the Spooles, and it often happens that the Skaines are so tangled that they can never be doubled at all. 6. The viewing of the yarne in the Skaine is altogether needles, for any man in doubling the yarne from off the Spooles can Judge of the work sufficiently. 7. That driveing

the Petitioners out of the towne (if it could be effected) would be much to the dammage of the Towne and hinder above 1,000 poore people of the work they now have, for the Petitioners and all the rest that follow the imployment are not able to set all the poore on work now, and if your petitioners should be restrained the rest cannot set halfe of them on work. 8. Divers persons who by reason of some disasters and losses have been forced to leave off their trades, and Widdowes after the death of their husbands, have learned and taken up this imployment and thereby have maintained themselves and their familyes, which otherwise they could not have done, which advantage or privilidge will be taken away, if the imployment be confined to a small number as some endeavour. 9. If there be no Law extant by which the Petitioners can be restrained how safe can it be to contrive Ordinances or by lawes to hinder the publicke good? 10. If the increasing of a manufacture to the height be everywhere adjudged a publick proffit, that ought to be advanced rather than the gratifying of a few because free men.

The premisses considered the Petitioners humbly pray that this Assembly will not act anything which may tend to the prohibiting of the Petitioners from the Exercising of the said calling.

[Signed by various names many of which are illegible.]

DCCCXVIII. *Petition of Anne Angell Widow*

Hall Papers XVII, No. 285. [No date.] Whereas your Petitioner was wife to Mr John Angell who was sometime Lecturer in the Church of St Martin Leicester chosen by the Maior Aldermen and Company of the said Borrough, and had conferred upon him as yearly Sallary or stipend for discharge of the said place, the summ of Thirty pounds per Annum setled and confirmed to him by the said Maior and Aldermen and also Ten pounds per Annum more as an adition or Augmentacion thereunto dureing pleasure the which summes were duely and really paid by the Chamberlins unto the said Mr John Angell untill he was uniuostly expelled and forced to leave the towne (without any guilt of disloyalty to his Maiestie or resistance or opposition to the then present government to seek his habitacion and maintenance where he could, and lived a whole year without taking any place upon him in the Ministry, whereby himselfe his wife and family were deprived of all meanes for subsistance And he hoped the Corporacion would have paid him that yeares Sallary of thirty pounds

which they had bound themselves to pay till he should remove and take some other place upon him. And his not performing of his office, not being voluntary, nor procured by anything done by him. Therefore your Petitioner in regard of her low estate * * makes bold to recommend the same to your consideracion hopeing that you will * * grant her at least some part of the said arrears.

DCCCXIX. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1672-73**Fees Wages etc.*

Item paid to Mr Josiah Bond vicar of St Maries by order of a Common Hall being their free guift £5.

[In addition to the usual £10.]

Item paid to Edward Mathews for dyett and lodging for one Sadler committed to his prison for dangerous words by him spoken against some Lords of his Maiesties most honourable Privy Councell 4s.

Item paid to Edward Mathews for his charges goeing to London with one Sadler committed to the Gaole and removed to London by the Councells order as appeares by bill £4. 0. 6.

[This comes a page or two above.]

Item paid to Widow Rivett for Ale fetcht to the Gaynesborow when the Mountebank Doctor was there by Mr Maiors order 2s. 6d.

Item paid to Mr William Elliott one of the Coroners for paying the Jury and other officers when they enquired of the death of one Bennett that was drowned in the Northgate in the great flood 3s. 6d.

Item paid to Mr William Elliott for the Jury and Officers charges when hee sate upon Elizabeth Knight whoe was Drowned at the West bridg 2s. 6d.

Repaires.

Item paid to John Hall Glasier for the high schoole windowes as appeares by bill £1. 5. 11.

Item paid for mending the Lowe Schoole windowes by Samuell Cooper glasier and for worke done at the Towne Hall by Mr Maiors order as appeares by bill £1. 12.

Item paid for one mans worke for filling the rutts in fryer lane 4d.

Item paid to two men for carrying of stones out of the fryers into the lane 1s. 4d.

Item paid to Richard Heyford for carriage of sand and gravell and stone for paveing Sheepe pen Lane as appeares by bill £7. 8. 10.

Taxes.

Item paid John Buxton for a double levy for the repaire of All Saints Church for the said house and garden 3s.

Item paid for Freakes ground for one yeare for Drumes and Trophies and an acquittance 2s. 1d.

Item paid to John Warburton and John Mitchell Collectors of the Southgate ward for the meadowes and mills fore drumes and trophies 5s.

	<i>£ s. d.</i>
Charge	787. 19. 1 $\frac{1}{4}$
Discharge	726. 09. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Due to Towne	061. 09. 8 $\frac{3}{4}$
Due to Ch: (Hospit: acct)	049. 00. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Due to Towne	012. 08. 10 $\frac{1}{4}$
Allowed	006. 09. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Then due to Towne	005. 18. 10 $\frac{1}{4}$

DCCCXX. An order of the Deputy Lieutenants

Hall Papers XVII, No. 293. [? Oct.? 1674.] Whereas the Burrough of Leicester stand charged with the providinge and setting forth of forty trained foote souldiers for the service of his Maiestie in the Militia of the Countie, under the Command of Sir George Villiers Barronett Collonell. Complaint beinge made unto us by the Mayor and some of the Aldermen of the said Burrough, that they are over charged, And upon Consideration therof wee finde iust cause to give them releife therein. It is therefore this day ordered that tenn of the said foote souldiers bee discharged and taken [*illegible*] and from the said Burrough of Leicester, And that [the Burrough] stand charged for the future (for the service of [*illegible*]) only with thirty [*illegible*].

DCCCXXI. Meeting of Mayor and Justices

Hall Papers XVII, No. 330. [? 1674?] It is ordered that Mr Deane shall have Belgrave gate ward; and Mr Hartshorne to have Senvy gate ward; and that the Church gate shalbe added to the said Senvy gate to make it one entire ward.

It is agreed at this meeeting that the Constable of the Gateree gate ward shall passe all Cripples which comes to him from the Constable of the Belgrave gate ward to Knighton, if they bee to goe to London, and not to send them to any other Constable within this Burrough.

DCCCXXII. *Orders relating to the Accounts*

Hall Papers XVII, No. 340. [No date.] (Extracts.) That the scoole windowes bee noe more mended att the Towne charge butt att the charge of such as Breake them or by a Joynt chardge of all the scolares.

Thatt for the future the Corporation bee only at the charge of 7 trained souldiers and that the other 24 bee laid upon the severall Inhabitants.

That att [sic] if the M^r fee bee still detained thatt then the hospitall must allow all maner of charge the are forced too by discharge of the said place as M^r of Hospitall.

That the grandiuries dynners shall only bee allowed 10s. and alsoe the Constables 5s. their being noe such allowance by the Country to the Grand Jury.

Thatt the charge of the Streete Booke bee noe lonnger allowed by the Towne.

Thatt the Library Keeper have butt 3*li.* per Annum for futture.

Thatt the Maior for the future shall have butt 1 Gazett a week and noe weekly Bill att the Towne Charge.

Thatt the present to the Judge att Lent Assizes shall nott exceed 2. 5. 0. and att Summer Assizes 2. 0. 0. and that noe other present bee maid to any person out of town without consent of the wholl Hall.

Thatt the moneys allowed to the Officers at Christmas to keepe them from going about with the boxes bee no lonnger allowed.

The waites to have nothinge out of the Towne purse for any [thing] donne for the Towne the Maior and Companys att faires or any other publike meeetinge.

Thatt for the future noe wine or Biskate bee allowed att visiting of the Scoole unlesse the M^r of the Hospitall bee there and then nott to exceed 5s. in wine.

That all Constables charges for the future shall bee allowed by the severall wards.

That for the future all Charitable Guifts bee drawne up by themselves in all accounts.

Thatt every particular Rent shall bee charged in every Chamberleynes accompt and nott charged in Grosse by Guilds as afforsayd.

And thatt their bee nothinge allowed to M^r Maior ffor any Sizes dinner butt thatt hee shall bee allowed 30s. ffor every Sessions dinner.

Agreed upon.

DCCCXXIII. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1673-74*

[The accounts for this year are missing.]

DCCCXXIV. *Petition of "divers freemen of the Burrough of Leicester"*

Hall Papers XVIII, No. 28. [No date.] Humbly Sheweth

That whereas your Peticioners have for divers yeares past enjoyed the benefitt for the keeping of theire cattell in the High towne pasture there said profitts and privilidges are either taken awaye or much impaired by the farmers of such lands which are and lye adiacent to the said pasture which your Peticioners present to you in these greivances following.

Inprimis That whereas it hath beene accustomed for the farmers Cattell to bee driven to there own Commons by the Common road to Elson the said farmers cause there Cattell to bee driven through A place called the thrift whereby the grasse of your Peticioners is eaten upp from yr [=their] Cattell. It is ordinary and usuall for the afore said farmers to water and and [*sic*] Laire there Cattell in a place called the Bull nooke, to the dammage of the freemens Cattell and Spoile of there pasture That wheras the farmers By Ancient Custome are to keepe Bull and Boare for publique uses of the freemens Cattell they either keepe none at all or if they doe they are commonly such as are inservicable for that your peticioners are constrained to goe to other places for such as are servicable for there Cattell, To there trouble and expense. That whereas the farmers are not to put any sheepe into the medows before Michaelmas Day it is usuall with them to bringe there sheepe at or soone after Lammas to the losse of your peticioners. That it is an ordinarye practise of the farmers to sell or sett there Commons or pastures to those that are not freemen and then at what time the pasture is broken upp the farmors themselves not only put in beasts above what is the Custome but other mens Cattell under there pretence and shelter that are not freemen are put in with there owne to the losse and dammage of your Peticioners. Whereas after Michallmas Day it hath beene anciently accustomed to the freemen to put in horse or Cowe into the open fields and there to continue till Lady Day or most part of Winter (if they soe please) the farmors have gon about and doe hinder there said privilidge in that kinde impoundinge there Cattell and alsoe have discharged your peticioners from bringinge or sendinge there Cattell infrindginge there privilidge to there expense and losse.

Your petitioners desire Your Worshippes to take the premisses into consideracion that some course may bee taken that the aforesaid greivances may bee redressed and there privilidges knowne and maintained that they bee not enforced to use any other legall way to procure these rights belongeing to them (which is not there desire).

The Peticion to be taken into consideracion.

DCCCXXV. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1674-75*

Receipts.

Item of Mr Nathaniell Wanley Clerk for a house in holy rood Lane neare St Martins Church late in the occupacion of Zachary Sympson and John Easome and now in the occupacion of [illegible] in fee farme per annum 6s. 8d.

Item of the heires or Exec[ut]ores of Elloner Bonnett widow for a piece of ground now built upon late in Ralph Ortons occupacion standing neare a house called the Maiors old hall neare St Nicholas Church in fee farme per annum 3s. 4d.

Item of Mr John Wilkins for the herbage of St Maries Churchyards per Lease of 21^{tie} yeares from Michaelmas 1669 per annum 10s.

Item of Mr George Beckett now Maior for Tithe hay and herbage yearly growing and being upon Burgess meadow, St Maries meadowes Southfeilds and Tithable meadowes beyond Newarke Mills per Lease per annum £5.

Item of Thomas Sacheverell Esqr for the Tith and Vicariall Tenths herbages and other duties belonging to the said Colledg for Dannetts hall, Welch hall, Mary Milne and holme per Lease for 21^{tie} yeares per annum £5.

Item of Mr John Heyrich for the Tith and Vicariall Tenths of all those grounds sometime parcell of Dannetts hall per Lease alsoe per annum £2.

Item of Walter Rudings and William Rudings Esqrs for all the Tithe Vicariall Tenthes herbages and other duties belonging to the said Colledg payable out of all the Lands, grounds pastures and parcell of lands being any part or parcell belonging to the West Coates per Lease for the like terme for 21^{tie} yeare from Michaelmas 1669 per annum £5.

Item of the poore of Trinity hospitall for one acre of meadow in Burgesse Meadowe called Lady acre in fee farme per annum 3s. 4d.

Item of Mr Josiah Bond Vicar of St Maries for the Easter booke and duties of the said parish and for Christenings tyth piggs and

mortuaries happening in the said parish as Mr Jesson held the same per annum 3s. 4d.

Item of Anthony Abell and William Lyon for a garden in hottgate streete late Thomas Pares butcher per annum 5s.

Item received of Mr William Sheeres for his fine upon his discharge from the company of the Eight and forty according to agreement £30.

Item of Mr Thomas Ward sherman for his discharge from the said company £1.

Item of the said Mr George Rayson on Mr Joseph Cradock for a messuage or Tenement commonly called or knowne by the name or signe of the Angell late the land of Anthony Wigley deceased per annum 2s.

Item of Thomas Drake for a messuage or Tenement in the high streete neare the common Bakehouse being a corner house late Mr Wadlands land in the occupacion of Mathew Coultsman per annum 1s. 4d.

Item of Jeffery Hynman out of a house in Chaffe Lane neare Red Crosse Streete sometime Gunstons land, now W^m Parkers of Kibworth Hercourt 9d. and for a hen iij½d. in toto per annum 1s. 0½d.

Item of John Harryson out of Roddymans lane in the Northgate sometimes Cadiebies Land per annum 6d.

Fees Wages etc.

Item paid for Ale and tobacco for Mr Maior and Aldermen at ye Gaynsborough when they waited to Attend the corps of ye Countesse of Devonshire into the Towne 1s. 9d.

Item paid to the Ringers at St Martins Church when they did ring for the Earle of Aylsbury at his retorne to the Towne from burying the said corps 5s.

Item paid Mr Coleman and Sam: Browne Appothecaries for bisketts and sweetmeates presented to ye Earle of Aylsbury and ye Gentlewomen with him at the Angell upon their reterne by bills £2. 6. 6.

Item paid to Mr Maior for ye charges of himselfe Towne Clerke and macebearer, and horse hyre when Mr Maior was sent for to London concerneing the Brewers £1. 3. 2.

Repaires.

Item paid George Browne and two men for one day and an halves work at St Anthonyes Bridg and paveing before the Towne hall 4s.

Item paid for fire hearthes this yeare for Towne hall great house, Gaynesborough, schoole house and free schoole £1.

DCCCXXVI. *Petition of John Scampton, Mercer*

Hall Papers XVIII, No. 38. [Aug. 1676.] Sheweth

That your peticioner being lately elected by your Worshippes, one of the members of the Common Counsell or company of the Eight and Forty, and in regard your peticioner lives remote from the said Burrough, and cannott attend the affaires thereof, as hee in conscience ought, had rather give some reasonable Summe of Money to bee discharged from any further attendance then serve in the said Society

Your peticioner therefore praiers hee may be discharged. * *

DCCCXXVII. *Letter from Robert Harding*

Hall Papers XVIII, No. 61. [30 Jan. 1676/7.] Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen * * I wryte this second letter to Acquainte you That since my last to fynd out and prevent what I feared (A Qua Warranto to your Corporacion) which is in my lord Chancellors power to send when he will, I have Agayne discoursed not only Mr Finch, but some other Great persons of Quallity, who wish you had not disobliged my lord Huntingtons tender of Mr Finch, who I perceive think you was offered the Greatest favour of Any Corporacion in England, as the tymes now stand To which for you all, I answered you had prudently hitherto behaved yourselves and none of your 24 or 48 were Anywise Ingaged against him, or on eyther syde, but Reserved your liberty of your own votes till ye election, and that you were so farre from Acting Any Interest, but your owne that you would first know whether Sir John Prettyman was dead or living: But yet for all this I still perceive, there is unkindness taken, which I will endeavour to mollify as much as I can, but I perceive if you shall choose Any that opposed Mr Finch, It will not bee forgotten. And truly for my owne part I will neyther oppose Mr Gray or Mr Finch, Though all say here if you shall choose one of your owne members or myself, no offence can bee justly taken on eyther syde, But I clearely know by ye Statute and beleive ye Parliament will determyne the election is in the Mayor Aldermen Comon Councell and Burgesses that are sworne Freemen and in none other, though in Sir John Prettymans election, before ye Committee The Question was only whether ye 24 and 48 Alone should elect as formerly which was carryed in the Negation, but had the question beene meerly betwixt Burgesses and no Burgesses the case had bin otherwise Resolved, for ye poorest Burgess hath his vote by the Statute but those which are no Burgesses are no members of ye Corporacion

of Leicester though they dwell in Leicester and this is ye Law, but yet your custome should have prevayled, which oft bynds ye Law, but that is now past. Now Gentlemen I will study how I may to keep us all Quyett, And 'tis in the power of ye Hall to Admonish and Rule ye Burgesses for ye welfare of ye corporacion or to doe as they see just cause, therefore you that Governe must bee unanimous and first Rule yourselves and ye Rest when they know it will obey you and then M^r Mayor may as the head Rule ye Body and choose which of ye members is best Able to serve the Rest. As for the expence of a Noble treat to the wholle corporacion upon the election no man will Deny It but to hyre or Ingage votes unduly by Drinking on Any syde is so great A cryme tis not to bee suffered, But all other civillityes which must needs occasion some expence, will not bee scrupled but satisfyed I only wryte this by way of Advise in your proceedinge in so great A buisness of such Importance to the Corporacion I perceive M^r Finch doth wholly Declyne it, unless hee bee courted to it, or freely chosen and that is wholly left by him to my lord Huntington, so that herby you may perceive, how your case stands And therefore I submitt your case wholly to your owne discretions, to doe whats best for the Corporacions welfare, and I shall bee very heartily contented with your pleasures and Rejoyce in what shall most Honour and serve you Now since my last that Great Question on ye Statute of Edward the third is a little Answered that in Queene Elizabeths tyme our Parliament was adiourned A little more then a wholle yeare: so that this our president somewhat Allayes ye objection, And tis sayd the King is moved att ye Question.

DCCCXXVIII. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1675-76*

Fees Wages etc.

Item paid for five yards of seaven quarters broad Kidermuster stuffe for the Towne hall table at 1*s.* 1*od.* per yard 9*s.* 2*d.*

Item paid M^r Alderman Noble towards his charges when hee was sent for to London by ye order of ye Kings Councell concerneing the Brewers £10.

DCCCXXIX. *Letter from John Gray, M.P.*

Hall Papers XVIII, No. 82. [7 April 1677.] M^r Mayor. * * *
 A Bill was sent us down from the Lords entituled an Act for the more effectual Conviction and prosecution of Popish Recusants; Upon ye reading ye said Bill and opening the substance thereof to ye house It

appeared to be much different from ye Title And thereupon the house Nemine contradic[en]te rejected the same; And the same Day wee passed a Bill for suppressing ye growth of Popery and sent it up to ye Lords. * * The Prince of Orange hath received a great defeat from ye French, as his Highness was goeing to releive St Omers; some say hee is wounded, but hee is certainly retreated to Ypres.

DCCCXXX. *Meeting of the Mayor and Justices*

Hall Papers XVIII, No. 95. [30 July 1677.] It appeareing unto us by Anne the wife of Robert Braughton where one Michaell Cater did lye and Inhabite; that the said Michaell did lye at her house but five weekes and noe longer to her knowledge; And alsoe that Thomas Edrington was told by the said Michaell Cater that hee had byn one weeke at Hinchley of six weekes which hee affirms hee was in the parish of St Martins Leicester.

Upon which Testimony it appeares unto us that the said Michaell Cater was not setled in the parish of St Martins 40^{tie} daies according to the Statute, therefore Doe order that the said Cater be sent to the parish of St Maryes Leicester where his last legall setlement was.

DCCCXXXI. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1676-77*

Repaires.

Item paid to John Erp for walling at Taylers house and clensing the house, and to M^r Maior for straw for the walls as appears by bill 4s. 6d.

Item paid to John Erp for a daies work at the Rowdikes 8d.

Item paid at Robert Lords when M^r Maior and the Aldermen mett concerneing the newe faire to be graunted to Loughborough as appears by bill 1s. 6d.

	£	s.	d.
Received	693.	8.	9½.
Paid	657.	19.	2.
Due to Town	35.	9.	6¼.
Received of Charitable uses	174.	2.	0.
Paid	203.	2.	6.
Paid more then received	29.	0.	8.
Supers allowed	4.	7.	1½.
The Chamberlaines paying not allowed by a Common Hall	6.	8.	
And alsoe more for horse hyre not allowed them	3.	0.	
Then there remaines due to the Towne from the Chamberlyns onely	2.	11.	5¼.

DCCCXXXII. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XVIII, No. 137. [? Oct. 1678.] Whereas Henry Dyson gentleman did upon Sunday last being the sixth day of this instant October stay M^r Maior [from] goeing to heare divine service at his parish Church of St Maries Leicester, and caused the serieants and mace bearers [in] an unusuall manner to sloop their maces, and alsoe when they came to the Church Dore, and would not [suffer the] mace to be sett up in the case where it usually did hange, which is conceived to be more out of a haughty humer [*illegible*] has to the Corporacion, then any right hee has to command the said maces to be slooped; It is therefore ordered [by] all present that if hereafter the said M^r Dyson shall offer the like affront to M^r Maior, That then M^r Maior [*illegible*] Councell concerneing, and the Privilidges of the said Burrough and to follow their direccion [*illegible*] the Corporacion may be restored to their Auntient privilidges and how to avoide M^r Dyson [*illegible*] his Maiesties cheife officer of the Burrough and his Attendants.

[Cost of any proceedings to be borne by Chamber of Town.]

DCCCXXXIII. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XVIII, No. 138. [? Oct. 1678.] It is agreed at this meeeting by all present; That if M^r Maior be affronted by M^r Dyson in commanding his maces when he goes to St Maryes Church to be slooped or in the Church as hee did last Sunday. That then M^r Maior shall take the Advice of such able Lawiers as hee shall think fitt; whether they may uphold their Auntient privilidges, in goeing to St Maries Church. And that all charges which shal be expended aboute the same shall be borne at ye charge of the Corporacion, and from time to time be paid out of ye Chamber of the Towne.

It is agreed at this Hall; That M^r Wakeman the now head schoolmaster shall have paid him by the Chamberlaines of the Towne the sume of Thirty five pounds; upon his resignacion of the schoole, Ten pounds whereof out of the Chamber of the Towne; and the other twenty five pounds they shall be repaid out of such sallery or sallaries as shall growe due and payable to the head schoolmaster at Ladiday next; and by such other waies and meanes as now is or hereafter shalbe taken care of for reimbursing the said Chamberlyns the other part of the said 45*li*.

And that the said M^r Wakeman upon this agreement and payment of the said 45 doth promise freely and voluntarily to leave the school house at Ladiday next without any trouble or molestacion, and to pay to the Towne sixpence for the rent of the said house untill Ladiday next.

DCCCXXXIV. *Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen*

Hall Papers XVIII, No. 139. [12 Nov. 1678.] It is ordered that in regard a damnable plott has bin contrived by the papists, a watch be appoynted nightly, and that one of the Aldermen be of the watch to order the same; And that Mr Maior watch this night and the Aldermen according to their seniority doe appeare afterwards nightly at the Gainsborough in this Burrough, and two of the company of the Eight and forty every night, to begin at the youngest first, and soe to take them gradually untill they have all watched; and that soe many musketts halberts, or other military instruments, for the defence of this Corporacion be appoynted by Mr Maior and Aldermen present, as they shall think fitt for preservacion of them that watch, and of the Towne; And that all and every the Constables and head burroughs watch nightly in their turnes, the Constable of Mr Bakers ward to be of the watch this night.

DCCCXXXV. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1677-78**Fees Wages etc.*

Item paid to Mr Maior which hee paid to souldiers and drummers upon reioycing at the marriage of the Lady Mary to the Prince of Orange £1. 8s. 6d.

Item paid to William Parsons for chaines and staples for the booke in the Liberary by Mr Maiors order 18s. 4d.

Item paid for wine given to Mr Camfeild the 23^{te} January 1677 and seavnenpence for Ale at the same time at the Towne Hall when the liberary Keeper was chosen 2s. 7d.

Item paid for a matt for Mr Maior to sett his feet on at Gaynsborough 6d.

Item paid William Parsons for a lock and joynts for the Lock booke 2s. 8d.

Item paid to Edward Wood for two brasse Candlesticks and for a large Chamber pott and for mending of a flagon for the Gainsborough as appears by bill 11s. 6d.

DCCCXXXVI. *List of Prisoners upon Bail*

Hall Papers XVIII, No. 147. [27 March 1679.] Richard Parker for Speaking these Seditious words (vizt) That King Charles the first was a papist which brought him to the Block, and his hand and Seale was at the Rebellion in Ireland And that his death was Just.

DCCCXXXVII. *A breach of law relating to burial*

Hall Papers XVIII, No. 167. [16 Oct. 1679.] I John Newton doe certify Edward Billers Gentleman Churchwarden of ye parish of St Martin in ye Burrough of Leicester, that No Affidavit was brought to me John Newton aforesaid within the space of eight days next after the Burying of Esther Abbot touching ye burying of ye said Esther Abbot in Woollen onely according to an Act of Parliament in ye behalfe provided. Witnes my hand. * *

J. Newton.

A warrant of distress was made upon 20th of October instant for distreyneing goods of the deceased.

DCCCXXXVIII. *Meeting of Mayor and Justices*

Hall Papers XVIII, No. 171. [1678-9.] It is ordered at this meeeting that the severall parishes undermencioned shall pay the severall summes underwritten proporcioned of the said Wards to be collected quarterly towards defraying of Constables charges within the said Burrough.

	s.	d.
S ^t Martins parish	03.	06.
S ^t Margarettis parish	03.	00.
S ^t Maries parish	03.	00.
All Saints parish	02.	00.
S ^t Nicholas parish	01.	10.
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	13.	04.

DCCCXXXIX. *Petition of parishioners of S^t Mary's*

Hall Papers XVIII, No. 180. [No date.] Sheweth That whereas Mrs Anne Lacy Widow, out of her affecion and great respect shee beareth to the said parish and pious love of the ministery that a conveinient house and habitacion for the Vicar thereof to invite an able learned and orthodox person to accept the same; has offered a conveinient house in the Newarke of Leicester to bee setled upon the Vicar of the said parish of S. Maries for ever, in case the said parish will pay in ready money unto her Twenty pounds, for raiseing of which summe has bin endeavoured some yeares by the said parishioners and have tried all iust waies and meanes to effect the same; but finde the condicion of the parish soe poore, and by the numerous poore now mainteyned by the said parish, and still likely to increase that they canott possibly raise the said Summe of Twenty pounds, And your

peticioners haveing noe otherwaies to effect the same, then imploiring the aid and Assistance of this worthy Corporacion for the gaineing of the said house.

Your peticioners therefore beseech your Worshipps according to your accustomed goodness and charity in advanceing soe pious a work to bestow upon your peticioners some bountifull and liberall guift in helping your peticioners to purchase the same.

Granted them £5 upon Condicion.

[Hall Papers XVIII, No. 177. [12 March 1679.] Common Hall. Agreed to grant £5 if M^r Lacy will settle the house legally for the use of Vicar.]

DCCCXL. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1678-79*

Shambles and Drapery.

Item paid to the Churchwardens of St Marie Leicester for the interest of Ten pounds given to the poore of the said parish by Thomas Sherman Clerk deceased and paid in to the Corporacion hands 12s.

Item paid more then received of Mr Ives guift to Charitable uses 2. 6. 8.

Item paid more then received of Mr Gilberts guift 6s. 8d.

Fees Wages etc.

Item paid Mr Thomas the now head schoolmaster for his halfe yeaeres sallery due at Michaelmas last £9. 10s. od.

Item paid to Thomas Staveley Esqr, Mr Edward Palmer and Mr William Maiors advice concerning the dangerouse words spoken by Richard Parker 16s. 8d.

Item paid to the Messenger that brought a letter from Coventrie to give notice of persons rising and being on Grange Heath in the West 2s.

Item paid for Ale when Mr Maior and some Aldermen went to the post house to enquire for letters directed to papists, and for a letter sent to the Maior of Derby 2s. od.

Item paid for wine and Ale at the Angell when Mr Maior and other Aldermen went to one of the Kings Messinger about sending a convoy to guard one Smith a Romish priest to Harborough 3s. 6d.

Item paid to Two men that went with the Kings messenger to convoy one Nedham a papist to Northampton for horse hyre and charges £1. 2. 2.

Item paid William Hall Glasier for takeing downe and setting up

and scowreing the glasse in the Towne hall windowes which was taken downe at the Eleccion of Burgesses and for new glasse as appeares by bill 9s. 5d.

Item paid John Skellett and his man, and for twelve poles, to make the Barr at the Eleccion 7s. 4d.

Item paid to John Worth and other farmers for carriage of two loades of papist bookees to Harborough by M^r Maiors order 6s.

DCCCXLI. *Letter to the Privy Council*

Hall Papers XVIII, No. 216. [23 April 1680.] Sheweth. That wee have received your Honours Letter to us directed, dated the fourt and Twentieth day of March last, concerning the Execucion of an Act of Parliament made for the well governing and Regulateing of Corporacions.

In all humble obedience to his Maiesties Royall will and pleasure wee have taken the same into Serious Examinacion; and upon a strickt inquiry wee finde that all persons since the makeing the said Act have beene Elected or Chosen and admitted into any of the said offices in the said Act mencioned in his Maiesties said Burrough by us or our predecessors have taken the oathes and Subscribed the declaracion in the said Act mencioned according to the direccion and appoyntment of the said Act, and that there are severall notes and memorandums thereof remaineing upon record with the Towne Clarke of the said Burrough, And wee doe further humbly Certifie your Honours that wee doe beleive and were satisfied that all persons soe elected or Chosen and admitted to any of the said offices in the said Burrough did receive the Sacrament of the Lords Supper within one yeare next before their said Eleccions but wee have not kept any memorandums of that the said Act not requireing us soe to do.

And wee doe further Certifie to your Honours that aboute fifteene yeares since Edward Billers, William Warberton iunior and William Orton three Burgesses of this Burrough were elected and Chosen into the office of Common Councill men in the said Burrough but inasmuch as the said Edward Billers, William Warberton and William Orton refused to take the oathes mencioned in the said Act of Parliament and had not received the Sacrament within one yeare next before their said Eleccion the said Edward Billers, William Warberton and William Orton were not admitted to the said office of Common Councill men but absolutely excluded and others elected in their stead and of the said neglect of the said Edward Billers, William Warberton and

William Orton the Maior Bailiffs and Aldermen that then were did Certifie his Maiestie and his Honourable Privy Council that then was and the said Edward Billers, William Warberton and William Orton by order of his Maiestie and his Councill were ordered to pay such fine as the Corporacion should impose upon them which they have done accordingly And seeing your Honours have beene pleased to intimate his Maiesties Royall will herein to us for the future wee are resolved according to our Duty and Lyalty to take speciall care that the said Act in all points thereof bee duly observed and as in duty wee are bound wee shall ever pray for his Maiesties long life and happy reigne over us.

DCCCXLII. Letter from Nathan Wright

Hall Papers XVIII, No. 185. [1 May 1680.] Sir yesterday I delivered your Letter of Certificate unto ye Privy Council. * * * The Certificate was read and a message sent out to me that I need not attend any Longer by which I presume ye Council were satisfied with ye Return ye like letters have been sent to all or most corporations of England, but I doe not hear that any proceedings has been against any of them upon this businesse, only ye Maior and Aldermen of Bedford, were sent for to ye Council Board last weeke upon information here given that they had neglected ye observance of ye Act for ye Regulating etc. but they are dismist again ye information not being proved. Sir I hope you will escape well for what is past and for ye future my advice to you is to see ye Statute perfectly observed in all elections. The discourse in Town is that wee shall have a new Parliament speedily but tis not believed. The King came yesterday from Newmarket and was treated last night at supper by Sir Jonathan Ramond one of ye Sheriffs of London.

DCCCXLIII. Letter from Marmion Gee

Hall Papers XVIII, No. 220. [16 Sep. 1680.] Sir The Musters are appointed this yeare at Several places; that is at Melton, Leicester, and Ashby Delazouch And to appeare one troope of horse and two Companies of foot at each place. The Soldiers charged upon Leicester are to appear at Melton as you will find by the inclosed for it could not be ordered otherwaies by reason they belong to that Company in East Goscott hundred, I desire you will speak to the Aldermen of the several wards to assist the Constables in makeing there assesments that the Soldiers may be sent in at ye time with there pay and other necessaries as is required.

DCCCXLIV. *Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen*

Hall Papers XIX, No. 8. [26 Nov. 1680.] It is alsoe ordered and agreed that all the Aldermen that have bin Maiors or shalbe Maiors of this Burrough shall for the future attend Mr Maior for the time being in their Scarlett Gownes to waite upon the Judge or Judges at every Assizes, and the Justices of the Peace of this Burrough to sitt with the Judges and M^r Maior upon delivering the Gaole in their Scarlett Gownes.

It is alsoe ordered and agreed at this meeeting, that for the future all Eleccions of Members to be chosen of either of the Companies shalbe Elected and chosen by Ticketts onely and noe otherwise.

DCCCXLV. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XIX, No. 7. [? 1680.] Whereas it is observed that the streetes within this Burrough are much out of repaire, and soe decayed [that a] persone cannot walke therein dark nights, or other times without some danger or mischief may thereupon ensue [illegible] whereof; and that the said streetes may be more decently kept in good order and repaire for the creditt and [convenience of the] said Burrough. It is ordered and agreed upon at this Hall That every Alderman [illegible] shall command the Constable of his Ward to walke with him and viewe the streetes within his Ward, and where he shall find [illegible] streetes belonging to any person or persons Inhabitants or owners there of shall give them notice to repaire such part of the streetes [illegible] them belongeth or appertayneth to amend and set in good repaire the same within one moneth next after such notice given [for the] repaireing thereof And in case such person or persons refuse or neglect to amend and repaire [the said streets the] Constable or Constables shall present all and every such person or persons as shall make defalt in repaireing the said streetes [illegible] Generall sessions of the peace to be holden for the said Burrough.

DCCCXLVI. *Petition to King*

Hall Papers XVIII, Nos. 212 and 213. [No date.] That whereas 'there hath been and still is a most damnable and hellish plott branched forth [illegible] most horrid villainies against your Maiesties most sacred person the protestant Religion and the well established [peace] of this your realme for which severall of the principall Conspirators stand now Impeached by parliament therefore in such a time when

your Maiesties Royall person as also the protestant Religion and the Government of this Nation are thus in most Eminent danger Wee your Maiesties most humble and obedient subiects in the deepest sense of our Duty and Allegiance to your Maiestie doe most humbly pray that the Parliament which is prorogued untill the 26 day of [illegible] may then sit to try the offenders and to redress all our most pressing Greiveances no otherwise to be redressed.

And your petitioners shall ever pray for your Maiestie Long and prosperous Raigne.

[The petition is "from subjects the County of Leicester whose names are signed" but there are no signatures.]

DCCCXLVII. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1679-80*

Fees Wages etc.

Item paid to Nathan Wright Esqr for his yearly salary £10.

Item paid to Mr Theophilus Tapper Vicar of St Marie Leicester being the Townes free guift dureing pleasure £10.

Accidental payments.

Item paid to Mr John Garland for goeing to Swepson and other places to search the Registers for the birth of foure poore children sent out of Lancyshire to the Burrough and for horse hyre 14*s*.

Item paid to Mr Recorder for fees for his advice concerneing the Letter from his Majesties Councell concerneing the entering and sweareing of members; and concerneing Mr Wadlands disturbance of the Old hospitall people £1.

Item paid to Mr Walter Hood for a rope for the hightowne heardsman to help any beast out of the ditches if they chance to fall therein 6*d*.

Item paid to Mr John Mason being the Townes free guift towards purchaseing the vicaridg house of St Maries for the Vicar thereof £5.

Item paid for a treate of sweet meates, wine, Ale and Tobacco when the master of Wigstons Hospitall and his Lady were in Towne £1. 0. 7.

DCCCXLVIII. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XIX, No. 20. [30 May 1681.] It is ordered at this Hall that the addresse read unto them to bee presented to his Maiestie, bee drawne up faire and Mr Maior to [sign and] seale it with the Common Seale, and to bee presented to his Maiestie by Nathan Wright Esqr our Recorder.

It is alsoe ordered at this hall than an Engine be bought for the use and good of the Corporacion in case of fire with the monies subscribed [by the] persons above mencioned, and what els shalbe

collected and subscribed too by the well disposed Inhabitants of the said Burrough [illegible] contracting for the same with the engineer bee left to Mr Maior Mr Francis Noble Mr Andrew Freeman Mr William [illegible] John Dann and Thomas Tompson Chamberlaines Samuell Robinson Richard Hill incase soe much money com [illegible] the same.

DCCCXLIX. *Meeting of Mayor and the Twenty-four*

Hall Papers XIX, No. 31. [16 Aug. 1681.] It is ordered that Mr Mayor and some Aldermen advise with Mr Recorder concerneing Mr Mortons guift of three pounds per annum to Charitable uses issuing out of a Tippitt in the tenure of Mr John Daintree being lately discovered by Mr Nicholas Sherwins bringing Mr Mortons will to Mr Maior, which was made above 160^{tie} yeares since, and the said guift never yet paid as by the will is directed.

[On the back.]

It is further ordered that Mr John Pares late one of the Chamberlyns of the said Burrough be allowed by the Corporacion interest for 30*li.* 10*s.* 2*d.* the Towne owes him upon his accompt, and 40*li.* 2*s.* 6*d.* in John Jessons hand his partner from midsomer last for [blank] moneths at the rate of six per cent.

DCCCL. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XIX, No. 16. [? 1681.] At this Hall the Accompt of John Jesson and John Pares was read and passed, onely that whereas John Jesson had laid out, and expended severall greate summes, upon repaires of the streetes and ditching from the Gallowes to the bridge neare the Towne and for carriage and other things, and could not, or would not, produce bills for his discharge whereby the Corporacion became debtors to the said Chamberlaines a very large summe of money over and above what they had received. It is therefore ordered at this Hall that the said John Jesson shall pay and allow out of the monies due to him from the Corporacion the summe of Twelve pounds in lieu of what monies they conceive they have bin wronged and abused in by his extravagancy and dishonest dealeing dureing the time of his office, and employ therein.

It is alsoe ordered that all the Rent Rolls that have not bin delivered into the Towne Clerke, beginning at the yeare Mr Robert Hartshorne was Chamberlaine which [blank] shalbe delivered into the Town Clerke to be kept in the Chamber as Records.

DCCCLI. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1680-81**Fees Wages etc.*

Item paid to Mr Thomas Palmer for two quarts of sack and one of clarett and for Ale sixpence to drink with Sir Henry Beaumont when hee was to goe to the Parliament held at Oxford 5*s.* 8*d.*

	£	s.	d.
Received	682.	0.	6 <i>½</i> .
Paid	631.	13.	1 <i>¼</i> .
Due to Towne	50.	7.	5 <i>¼</i> .
Due to Chamb:	62.	1.	1 <i>¼</i> .
Allowed	4.	10.	7 <i>½</i> .
Remains due to Towne	45.	16.	4.
Due to Chamberlains	16.	4.	9 <i>¼</i> .

DCCCLII. *Questions answered by Mr Holt*

Hall Papers XIX, No. 69. [30 Jan. 1682/3.] Several persons being convicted by a Justice of the Peace for being present att an unlawfull meeting upon the Statute against Conventicles and one for suffering such a meetinge to be held in his house The Justice of Peace made a warrant in writinge under his hand and seale to the Constables and other officers in the said Statute mencioned to levy the respective forfeitures upon the goods and Chattells of the respective offenders The officers repaireing to the houses of the offenders finde the doores shutt and requested the owners to open the same which they refused to doe The doores not being opened upon request

Question Whether the officers may breake open the same to take their distresse there beinge noe other distresse to be founde

I am of opinion the officers may in this case breake open the doores it being for ye execution of a process wherein ye King is concerned.

DCCCLIII. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1681-82*

Item received of Mr Henry Dyson for moneys due to the poore men and women of the hospitall of the holy Trinity of the Newark of Leicester for the yeare of the maioralty of Mr John Roberts £44. 6. 6*¾*.

Item received more for them of the said Mr Dyson due in the yeare of the maioralty of Mr John Goodall £47. 1. 10*¾*.

Item received of Mr John Daintrie for rent in arreare of the guift of Mr Morton to the six poore widowes of St Johns payable by Thirteene shillings and fourpence out of a close called the Tippit to them yearly £20.

Fees Wages etc.

Item paid to Samuel Ludlam for three loades of water to play the Engine 1*s.*

Item paid to the Towne Clerke for writeing the Townes address to his Maiestie and for Twelve Coppies thereof by M^r Maior and Aldermen's order £1. 10.

Item paid for one quart of sack and two quarts of white wine when Collonell Lyster and Captaine Farnham came to M^r Maiors about the order for the Towne Trayne souldiers to deliver their redd coates to the severall Aldermen of their respective wards 4*s.*

Item paid for building the weekeday Shambles or S^t Nicholas Shambles £55.

DCCCLIV. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XIX, No. 83. [7 May 1683.] It is agreed upon and ordered at this meeeting that the Eleccion of the neatheard for the Corporacion for this yeare and soe for the future, shalbe by the Maior and Chamberlaines for the time being or the maior part of them And alsoe for the appoynting the daye and time for turneing the beasts in to the Towne pasture.

DCCCLV. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XIX, No. 117. [? 1683-4.] Whereas John Huckle the Towne Clerke has taken great paines in writeing the Rent rolls for many years [which] containes many sheetes of paper more then hitherto fore, and has had nothing allowed him by the Towne since he c[illegible] the place considerable which is above Nineteene yeaeres agone, for doeing of the affaires of the Towne, wherein [illegible] has bin both a great trouble, and charge; in parte of recompence for the same It is agreed by all present that hee [shall] have forthwith paid him out of the Chamber of the Towne the summe of Ten pounds of lawfull money of England [for] his reward for the same.

DCCCLVI. *Meeting of the Two Companies*

Hall Papers XIX, No. 122. [? 1683-4.] Whereas severall persons of both Companies neglect to appeare to walke the severall faires appoynted by former orders, and that by reason of the smallnes of the fines heretofore sett for not observeing the same is the cause of their neglect, It is therefore ordered at this meeeting that for the time to come if any of the said members shall neglect to come by Ten of the

Clock in the forenoon upon Mayday faire and Michaelmas faire, and doe not appear at the second call; That then every person neglecting the Company of the 24th shall pay for their default 4s. and the persons of the company of 48 shall pay for everie of their defalts 2s. 6d.

DCCCLVII. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1682-83**Fees Wages etc.*

Item paid for Ale when Mr Maior and Aldermen went to St Johns to see the charity of persons at the sermon on St Johns day and box money distributed amongst them 6d.

Item paid for wine at the White Lyon when Mr Maior and Aldermen met Mr Recorder and Mr Dyson concerneing the stoping of the hospital pay behinde from the Auditor 8s. 2d.

Item paid at Mr Pares for Ale and Tobacco when Mr Maior severall Aldermen and Common Councill men met to agree with John Brookes for setting up and building the Northgates and for his earnest of the bargaine the same time 7s.

Item paid for wine at the White Lyon when Mr Maior and severall Aldermen and others mett about the abhorrence to be presented to his Maiestie 5s. 6d.

Item paid to Mr Maior and Aldermen for defraying their charges when they went to London to present the Abhorrence to his Maiestie from the Towne £14. 15. 6.

Item paid for horse hyre and charges of Mr Beckett and Mr Goodall when they went to the Earle of Rutland with the Abhorrence 15s. 8d.

Item paid Mr Wagstaffe for two bottles of Canary and a bottle of Clarett when Mr Recorder Mr Steward and Mr Soliciter met about drawing the abhorrence 5s.

DCCCLVIII. *Letter from Lord Huntingdon*

Hall Papers XIX, No. 158. [2 Oct. 1684?.]

Mr Maior,

I have acquainted his Maiestie with the substance of your letter and he is very well pleased that the Resolutions of the Corporacion for the surrendering of your Charter was a Voluntary Act and not the effect of the Quo Warranto. His Maiestie expects you should attend him with it sometime before the term upon which there will be a stop of all Proceedings upon that Writt And his Maiesty hath further commanded me to lett you know hee shall bee ready to grant you

another which I hope may bee to all your satisfactions, and for myself I have many reasons to wish you much happiness, but none greater than the opinion I have that you will approve yourselves Loyall and obedient Subiects.

etc.
Huntingdon.

DCCCLIX. “*The meeeting of Mr Maior and several members of both Companies*”

Hall Papers XIX, No. 153. [6 Oct. 1684.] We conceive it may be advantageous to the Towne, if his Maiestie will please to graunt the Corporacion the Satturday before Twelfth day to be added to the other fourthly faire.

Alsoe that his Maiestie will pleace to settle Eleccion of Burgesses for Parliament for the Corporacion in both Companies as formerly.

Alsoe to beseech his Maiestie to graunt the Corporacion the revercion of the perquisites of the Court Leete and other immunitiess there unto belonging.

DCCCLX. *Arrangements to surrender the Charter*

Hall Papers XIX, No. 141. [10 Oct. 1684.] It is ordered and agreed at this meeeting Mr Maior, M^r Recorder, M^r Noble, M^r Southwell, M^r Freeman and M^r Goodall are appoynted to goe to London to Surrender the Charter and liberties to his Maiestie.

It is also agreed that M^r Maior etc., shall take the Common Seale of the Burrough to London and then and there to seal such Instruments as shalbe most acceptable to his Maiestie touching and concerning the surrender of the Charter and liberties of the Burrough It is also agreed that the Common Seale shall passe for the takeing up soe much money as there shalbe occasion for the paying fees and other charges concerneing renewing the Charter.

Question whether M^r Noble, M^r Southwell, M^r Freeman and M^r Goodall shall goe to London about surrender of the Charter.

I.....

or

Noe

[The number of Votes is small.]

DCCCLXI. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XIX, No. 142. [29 Oct. 1684.] It is agreed at this meeting that the Common Seale shall be affixed to the surrender now to be sent to his Maiestie It is ordered at this meeteing that M^r Chamberlaine Abney shall carry the surrender to his Maiestie to London and waite upon the Earle of Huntingdon with it, or M^r Recorder or both.

DCCCLXII. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XIX, No. 143. [? 1684.] * * agreed and ordered at this hall by the consent of the maior parte present that the Common Seale of the [Borough shall] passe for the takeing up of soe much money as shall be expended for payng of fees and defraying of [the expenses of the] Charter from his Maiestie and such and soe much money as shall be borrowed of any person or persons by [*illegible*] shall be repaide by the Corporacion out of their revenues.

DCCCLXIII. *Letter from Nathan Wright*

Hall Papers XIX, No. 157. [4 Nov. 1684.]

[He has presented surrender and petition for new Charter. The latter is under consideration.]

* * As to alterations in ye Corporacion I can give you very little account of them yet in a few days I shall I believe bee able to satisfye you fully how all matters will bee and who displaced My Lord of H is now upon ye inquiry after men and principles but who hee makes up in this affair I know not the town is much engaged to Dr Geary for his care in this concern but I hope there will be noe need of his comeing up. I have not heard my Lord speake anything lately of makeing ye Gentlemen of ye County to bee Justices for ye Burrough nor doe I believe any such thing is intended. * *

DCCCLXIV. *Letter from Nathan Wright*

Hall Papers XIX, No. 163. [2 Dec. 1684.] * * Wee have now settled all things in the new Charter * * none of your Antient priviledges are in ye least impaired by it, except as to ye Common Council which from 48 is now reduced to 36 and ye Chamberlines taken away and ye two Baylyes to supply their place and execute their office and all the Members and Officers of ye Corporacion are made subiect to ye pleasure of his Maiestye and successors to bee removed, when hee shall think fitt to have it soe, in all other matters you are as formerly.

DCCCLXV. *Letter from Mr Brown, Solicitor*

Hall Papers XIX, No. 154. [9 Dec. 1684.] * * My Lord Huntingdon thinks it will be convenient that you the Aldermen and Common Councill should come in your Gownes to meet the Charter as far as you can walke out of the towne and if any Gentlemen and other Townesmen will thinke it convenient to come as far as Odeby on horseback I give you this tymely notice that you may be pleased to direct your affaires as you thinke most convenient * * The Recorder will be with you [Sat]turday so that you may discourse him and he will direct [illegible] Huckle howe to prepare things for sweareing all the Companyes and [illegible] which must be done they must all afterwards receive the Sacrament [and take] the Oathes at the next Sessions. The Doe is as a present to the Corporacion from your new Recorder. The next [illegible] intends to move my Lady to send some Guinneyes to drinke the [illegible] Recorders and the Corporacions health.

DCCCLXVI. *"Persons of both Companies and officers sworne the 18th and 19th day of December"*

Hall Papers XIX, No. 161. [18 Dec. 1684.]

M ^r Thomas Ludlam Mayor	Thomas Drake } John Abney }	Thomas Ward	malster
M ^r Francis Noble	Samuel Martin	Thomas Ludlam	
M ^r William Southwell	William Stretton	Thomas Simpson	
M ^r Andrew Freeman	John Mason senior	John Burdett	
M ^r William Deane	John Jesson senior	Robert Hobson	
M ^r Robert Hartshorne	John Pares	Arthur Noone	
M ^r George Beckett	Thomas Thompson	Richard Mason	
M ^r Edmund Sutton	John Dan	William Atkins	
M ^r Phillip Abney	William Springthorpe	Henry Dan	
M ^r John Roberts	Henry Pate	George Crofts	
M ^r John Goodall	David Clay	Thomas Ayres	
M ^r George Bent	Thomas Ward	John Pollard	
M ^r William Stubbins	John Cracroft	Nicholas Alsop	
M ^r Francis Ward	Richard Hill	Godfrey Barrodale	
M ^r Walter Hood	Edmund Astell	John Page	
M ^r Edward Wood	George Steeres	Edward Wagstaffe	
M ^r John Wilkins	John Hardy	John Roberts	
M ^r Edward Malson		Joseph Roberts senior	
M ^r Joseph Cradock			
M ^r Thomas Palmer			
M ^r Gabriell Hill			
M ^r Edmund Cradock			
M ^r Danniell Robinson			
M ^r Samuell Woodland			

Memorandum Mr Maior tooke the oath of maior and all other oathes according to the statutes the 18th day of December And tooke the oath of Justice of the Peace the nineteenth day of december before Mr Francis Noble Mr William Southwell and Mr Andrew Freeman.

DCCCLXVII. *Announcement of Surrender of Charter*

Hall Papers XIX, No. 144. [? 1684.] To all Christian people to whom these presents shall come the Maior Bayliffs and Burgesses of the Borough of Leicester in the County of Leicester send greeting Know you that ye said Maior Bayliffs and Burgesses, for divers good considerations them hereunto especially moveing Have granted and surrendered and by these presents do fully and absolutely grant and surrender unto our Soveraigne Lord ye King his heirs and successors All and singular ye Powers franchises libertyes priviledges and authorityes whatsoever which ye said Maior Bayliffs and Burgesses now have use and enjoy or can or may have use or enjoy by vertue of any Letters Pattents Charters Grant prescription or other right or title whatsoever for and concerning ye electing constituting nominating and appointing of any person or persons to bee Maior Recorder Aldermen Stewards Bayliffs Coroners Bayliffe of ye Libertye Common Council Man or Town Clerke of ye said Borough of Leicester or any other officer whatsoever within ye said Borough In witnesse whereof The said Maior Bayliffs and Burgesses to these presents have put their Common Seal ye [blank] day of [blank] in the 36th year of ye reign of our Soveraigne Lord Charles ye 2nd etc. 1684.

DCCCLXVIII. *The names of the Corporation of Leicester*

Hall Papers XIX, No. 159. [? 1684.]

Thomas Ludlam Maior.

Theophilus Earle of Huntingdon, Recorder.

Nathan Wright Esqr Deputy-Recorder.

Henry Halford Esqr Steward.

[List of Aldermen and others rather defective.]

A power for the Recorder to make a deputy.

The Recorder and the Deputy-Recorder to be Justices of the Peace within the Borrough And of the Qorum and likewise the Major.

That it be declared the Eleccion of Burgesses to serve in Parliament be onely by such as pay scott and lott.

That a new faire be graunted to be held the Satturday before Palme Sunday.

That the offices of Chamberlayne be executed by the two Bayliffs.

The Court of Record to be held weekly before the Mayor Recorder Deputy-Recorder and any two Aldermen or any three of them whereof the Mayor Recorder and Deputy-Recorder to be one.

The Eleccion of the Recorder and Aldermen Steward Bayliffe of the Libertye and Towne Clerke to be by the Mayor and Aldermen onely the Eleccion of Mayor and all other [officers] to be as formerly [illegible].

A provisoe that your Maiestie, your heirs and successors [shall have] power at any tyme hereafter by order in Council [to] displace and remove any person out of any of the [said offices] or places of Mayor, Recorder, Deputy-Recorder, Steward, Aldermen Bayliffes Common Councell-men Towne Bayliffe Towne Clerke and Macebearer And after such removall the office and place of such person to be void And the Corporacion to proceed to the Eleccion of some other fitt person whoe shalbe lyable to be removed in like manner.

A grant and Confirmation of their Antient rights and priviledges under the provisoe or Alteracions above.

R. Sawyer.

DCCCLXIX. *Charter of Charles II* (translation)

Charters Letters Patent etc. No. 111. [10 Dec. 1684.]

Charles King of England Scotland France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith etc., to all to whom these our present letters shall come greeting. Know ye that we graciously desiring the amelioration of our Borough of Leicester in our County of Leicester and willing that from henceforth for ever there shall be had a certain and determined manner in the same Borough of and for the keeping of our peace, and for the good ruling and government of the same Borough and of our people dwelling in the same, and others coming to the same and that the aforesaid Borough shall be and remain for all future times a Borough of peace and quiet to the fear and terror of evil men and reward of the good, and that our peace and the other deeds of justice and good government there may be better observed and done, and hoping that if the Burgesses and Inhabitants of the Borough aforesaid can have greater and more ample liberties and privileges of our grant then they might feel themselves more specially obliged to render and pay their services and the other things of their allegiance due to us and our heirs and successors, we have willed ordained constituted granted and declared of our especial grace and from our certain knowledge and mere motion

and by these presents we will ordain constitute grant and declare for ourselves our heirs and successors that our aforesaid Borough of Leicester shall be and remain forever hereafter a free Borough of itself, and that the Burgesses and Inhabitants of the same Borough and their successors henceforth for ever shall and may be by force of these presents a body Corporate and politic in fact deed and name by the name of the Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses of the Borough of Leicester in the County of Leicester and we do by these presents erect make ordain constitute confirm and declare them and their successors by the name of the Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses of the Borough of Leicester in the County of Leicester a body Corporate and Politic in thing fact and name really and fully for us our heirs and successors, and that by the same name they shall have perpetual succession and that they and their successors shall be for all future times persons able and capable in law, by the name of the Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses of Leicester in the County of Leicester, to have acquire, receive, hold and possess, lands tenements liberties privileges jurisdictions franchises and hereditaments of any kind nature or species whatsoever to them and their successors in fee and perpetuity or in any other way, and also goods and chattels and any other things of whatsoever kind nature and species and to give grant demise and assign by the name aforesaid their lands tenements hereditaments goods and chattels whatsoever and to do and execute all and singular other deeds and things, by the same name of the Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses of the Borough of Leicester in the County of Leicester, they may plead and be impleaded answer and be answered, defend and be defended in whatsoever courts, place and places and before whatsoever Judges and Justices and other persons and officers of us or of our heirs and successors in all suits plaints pleas causes actions matters and demands whatsoever of whatsoever sort nature or kind they may be in the same manner and form as other our lieges of this our realm of England persons able or any other corporate and political body within this realm of England may and are able to have acquire receive possess give grant and demise plead and be impleaded answer and be answered defend and be defended and that the Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses of the Borough aforesaid and their successors shall have for ever a common Seal to serve for executing their causes and matters whatsoever of them and their successors and that it may and shall be lawful to the same Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses of the Borough aforesaid and their successors to break change and make anew that seal from time to time at their pleasure as shall seem to them best to be and to be

done, and moreover we will and do and by these presents for us our heirs and successors grant and ordain that henceforth for ever there may and shall be within the Borough aforesaid one of the more upright and discreet of the Aldermen of that Borough to be elected and nominated in the form mentioned below in these presents who shall be and shall be called the Mayor of the Borough aforesaid and that likewise there may and shall be within the same Borough two upright and discreet Burgesses of the Borough aforesaid to be elected and named in the form mentioned below in these presents who shall be and shall be called the Bailiffs of the Borough aforesaid which Bailiffs shall execute and complete all and singular things that previously pertained to the office of Chamberlain (called in English Chamberlain) of the same Borough which the Chamberlains aforesaid were wont or empowered lawfully to execute and complete, and likewise there may and shall be within the Borough aforesaid from time to time twenty four upright and discreet men inhabiting and dwelling within the Borough aforesaid to be elected and named in the form mentioned below in these presents who shall be and shall be called Aldermen of the Borough aforesaid of whom we will the Mayor of the Borough aforesaid for the time being shall be one, And that from henceforth there may and shall be within the Borough aforesaid from time to time thirty six other upright and discreet men of the Inhabitants of the Borough aforesaid who shall be commonly called Burgesses of the Common Council of the Borough aforesaid to be elected and nominated in form mentioned below in these presents which thirty six burgesses of the Common Council of the Borough aforesaid shall from time to time be assistant and aiding the Mayor and Aldermen of the Borough aforesaid for the time being in all causes and matters touching and concerning the Borough aforesaid in such and in the same manner and form as the late Common Council (*Commune Concilium*) of the Borough aforesaid called the 'Company of Eight and Forty' in recent times assisted and aided the Mayor and Aldermen of the Borough aforesaid for the time being in such things and matters. And that there may and shall be within the same Borough two upright and discreet burgesses of the Borough aforesaid to be elected and nominated in the form mentioned below in these presents who shall be and shall be named Coroners of the Borough aforesaid to execute and perform all and singular things within the Borough aforesaid that pertain to the office of Coroner.

And moreover we will and grant by these presents for us our heirs and successors to the aforesaid Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses of the

Borough aforesaid and their successors that the Mayor and Aldermen of the Borough aforesaid and their successors for the time being or the greater part of them may and shall have full power and authority to draw up constitute ordain and make from time to time reasonable laws statutes and ordinances whatsoever that shall seem good wholesome useful honest and necessary according to their sound discretion for the good ruling and government of the Borough aforesaid and of all and singular burgesses artificers inhabitants and residents within the Borough aforesaid and for declaration in what manner and order the aforesaid Mayor Aldermen Bailiffs and Burgesses Inhabitants and Residents of the Borough aforesaid shall behave and use themselves in their Offices *Mysteris* and affairs within the Borough aforesaid and the limits of the same for the time being, and for the further good and public utility and better government of the Borough aforesaid and the victualling of the same Borough and for other things and causes whatsoever touching or in any wise concerning the Borough aforesaid; and that the said Mayor and Aldermen and their successors or the greater part of them for the time being whenever they have drawn up constituted made and ordained such laws statutes and ordinances in form aforesaid may impose and assess such reasonable pains penalties and punishments by fines and amerciaments or by either of them upon all offending against such laws statutes and ordinances or any of them such as shall seem reasonable and requisite to the Mayor and Aldermen of the Borough aforesaid or the greater part of them for the time being, and that they may levy and have the same fines and amerciaments for the proper use of the aforesaid Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses of the Borough aforesaid without hinderance from us our heirs and successors and without rendering any account thereof to us our heirs and successors: All and singular which laws statutes and ordinances to be made as is aforesaid we will shall be observed under the penalty to be contained in the same, provided however that such laws statutes ordinances fines and amerciaments shall be reasonable and not repugnant or contrary to the laws statutes customs or rights of our Realm of England.

And for the better execution of our aforesaid grants on this behalf we have assigned appointed named and made and do by these presents for ourselves our heirs and successors assign appoint name and make our Well beloved Thomas Ludlam senior, now Mayor of the Borough aforesaid, to be the first and present Mayor of the Borough aforesaid willing that the same Thomas Ludlam shall be and shall continue in the office of Mayor of the Borough aforesaid from the date of the

present until the feast day of St Mathew the Apostle next, and from the same feast until another Alderman of the Borough aforesaid shall be elected to and sworn to that office according to the ordinances and constitutions expressed and declared below in these presents, if the said Thomas Ludlam shall live so long, unless he shall have been reasonably removed from the Office aforesaid for bad government or bad behaviour or for any other cause.

We have also assigned named appointed and made and do by these presents for us our heirs and successors assign name appoint and make our well beloved Francis Noble William Southwell Andrew Freeman William Deane Robert Hartshorne George Beckett, Edmund Sutton, Phillip Abney John Roberts John Goodall George Bent and the aforesaid Thomas Ludlam, now Mayor of the Borough aforesaid, William Stubbens Francis Ward Walter Hood Edward Wood John Wilkins Edward Malson, Josephe Cradock Thomas Palmer Gabriel Hill Edmund Cradock Samuel Robinson Samuel Woodland Gentlemen to be the twenty four first and present Aldermen of the Borough aforesaid to be continued in the same office of Aldermen of the same Borough during their lives respectively unless they shall be removed meanwhile for bad government or for bad behaviour in this behalf or for any other reasonable cause or unless any of them respectively be moved.

We have also assigned named created appointed and made and do by these presents for us our heirs and successors assign name create appoint and make our well beloved Thomas Drake and John Abney to be the first and present Bailiffs of the Borough aforesaid to be continued in the same office until the aforesaid feast day of St Mathew the Apostle next and from that feast until two other Burgesses of the Common Council of the Borough aforesaid shall be elected and sworn to the offices of Bailiffs of the Borough aforesaid according to the ordinances and constitutions expressed and declared below in the presents, if the same Thomas Drake and John Abney shall live so long unless they have meanwhile been removed or either of them has been removed for bad government or bad conduct in this behalf or for any other reasonable cause.

We have also assigned named created appointed and made and do by the presents for us our heirs and successors assign name create appoint and make our well beloved Samuel Martin William Stretton, John Mason John Jesson John Pares Thomas Thompson John Dann William Springthorpe Henry Pate David Clay Thomas Ward John Cracroft and the aforesaid Thomas Drake and John Abney now Bailiffs of the Borough aforesaid and Richard Hill Edmund Astell

George Steeres John Hardy Thomas Ward Thomas Ludlam junior Thomas Simpson John Burdett Robert Hobson Arthur Noone Richard Mason William Atkins Henry Dann George Croftes Thomas Ayres John Pollard Nicholas Alsopp Godfrey Barrodale John Page Edmund Wagstaffe John Robertes and Joseph Robertes to be the first and present thirty six burgesses of the Common Council of the Borough aforesaid to be continued in the same office of Burgesses of the Common Council of the Borough aforesaid during their respective lives unless they be removed from that office for bad government or bad behaviour in this behalf or for any other reasonable cause or unless any of them respectively be removed.

We have also assigned named created appointed and made and do by the presents for us our heirs and successors assign name create appoint and make our aforesaid well beloved Francis Ward and Walter Hood, two of the present Aldermen of the Borough aforesaid, to be the first and present Coroners of the Borough aforesaid to be continued in the same office until the aforesaid feast Day of St Mathew the Apostle next and from that feast until two others of the Aldermen of the Borough aforesaid shall be elected and sworn to the office of Coroner according to the ordinances and constitutions expressed and declared below in the presents, if the same Francis Ward and Walter Hood respectively live so long, unless in the meantime they or either of them shall have been removed from that office for bad government or bad behaviour in this behalf or for any other reasonable cause.

And moreover we will and grant by the presents for us our heirs and successors to the aforesaid Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses of the Borough aforesaid and to their successors that the Mayor and Aldermen and the aforesaid thirty six burgesses of the Common Council of the Borough aforesaid and their successors for the time being or the greater part of them from time to time for all future time shall have power and authority yearly in each year on the feast day of S. Mathew the Apostle to assemble themselves or the greater part of themselves in the Guildhall of the Borough aforesaid or in some other convenient place within the Borough aforesaid to be limited and assigned according to the discretion of the Mayor and Aldermen of the Borough aforesaid for the time being or of the greater part of them, and there to continue until they or the greater part of them there then assembled shall have elected or named one of the Aldermen of the Borough aforesaid to be Mayor of the Borough aforesaid for the year then next following and that they may elect and name there before they disperse one of the Aldermen of the Borough aforesaid

who shall be Mayor of the Borough aforesaid for one whole year then next following, and that he thus elected and named as aforesaid Mayor of the Borough aforesaid before he be admitted to execute that office shall take a bodily oath upon the Holy Gospels yearly on the feast day of S. Michael the Archangel then next following before the Mayor his last predecessor and in his absence before such of the aforesaid Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough aforesaid who shall be then present in the Guildhall to execute that office well and faithfully in all things touching that office and shall take all other oaths (called in English oathes) which are required by the laws or statutes of this our realm of England to be taken by the Mayor of that Borough aforesaid or by Justices of the Peace and that after such oaths have been taken he shall undertake the office of Mayor of the Borough aforesaid and should and may execute that office from that time until the feast day of St Matew the Apostle then next following and until another of the aforesaid Aldermen of the Borough aforesaid shall have been elected and sworn as Mayor of that Borough in due manner and form and that the aforesaid Mayor Aldermen and Burgesses of the Common Council of the Borough aforesaid and their successors for the time being or the greater part of them thus yearly assembled on the feast day of St Matew the Apostle may elect and nominate two upright and discreet men of the Borough aforesaid to be Coroners of the Borough aforesaid for one year then next following and two other upright and discreet Burgesses of the Borough aforesaid to be Bailiffs of the Borough aforesaid for one year then next following, and the Bailiffs thus from time to time elected and nominated after having taken bodily oaths before the Maior of the Borough aforesaid for the time being on the feast day of St Michael the Archangel then next following to execute well and faithfully their respective offices shall have and hold and shall have power to have hold and enjoy those respective offices for one year then next following unless in the meanwhile they or either of them respectively shall be removed from the office aforesaid for any reasonable cause.

And moreover we will and grant by the presents for ourselves and our successors to the aforesaid Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses of the Borough aforesaid and to their successors that they and their successors shall have in the Borough aforesaid henceforth and for ever one distinguished man to be elected and nominated in form expressed below who shall be and shall be called the Recorder of the Borough aforesaid and we have assigned appointed and made and do by the presents for us our heirs and successors assign appoint and make our

especially beloved and very faithful cousin and Councillor Theophilus Earl of Huntingdon to be the first and present Recorder of the Borough aforesaid to be continued in the office aforesaid during his natural life unless he be in the meantime removed from that office for any cause by us or our successors.

We also will and grant by the presents for us our heirs and successors to the aforesaid Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses of the Borough aforesaid and to their successors that they and their successors henceforth for ever shall have an upright and discreet man learned in the laws of England and a barrister (in English a barrester att law) to be nominated for the space of three years in the form expressed below who shall be and shall be called the Deputy-Recorder of the Borough aforesaid which Deputy-Recorder of the Borough aforesaid for the time being shall have full authority to do and execute all things that pertain to the office of Recorder of the Borough aforesaid and for the better execution of our grant in this behalf we have assigned named appointed and made and do by the presents for us our heirs and successors assign name appoint and make our well beloved Nathan Wright Esqr fellow and barrister of the Inner Temple of London to be for the space of three years and more first and present Deputy-Recorder of the Borough aforesaid to have exercise and hold the office aforesaid during the pleasure of the Recorder aforesaid.

And moreover we will and grant by the presents for us our heirs and successors that henceforth for ever after the death or removal of the aforesaid Nathan Wright from the office of Deputy-Recorder of the Borough aforesaid it shall be lawful for the Recorder of the Borough for the time being to nominate and appoint a discreet man learned in the laws of England, as is aforesaid, to be the Deputy-Recorder of the Borough aforesaid to continue in the office aforesaid during the pleasure of the Recorder of the Borough aforesaid for the time being.

And moreover we will and grant by the presents for us our heirs and successors to the aforesaid Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses of the Borough aforesaid and to their successors that they and their successors henceforth for ever shall and may have and hold in the Guildhall of the same Borough or in any other convenient place within the Borough aforesaid a Court of Record on Monday in each week or more often at their pleasure before the Mayor Recorder Deputy-Recorder and Aldermen of the Borough aforesaid for the time being or before any three of the said Mayor Recorder Deputy-Recorder and Aldermen aforesaid, of whom we will the Mayor of the Borough afore-

said or the Deputy-Recorder for the time being shall be one and that in that Court they may hold hear and determine all and all manner such pleas plaints and actions as well real as personal and mixed and in such ample manner and form and by such ways manners and processes as the Mayor Recorder and Aldermen of the Borough aforesaid or any of them were accustomed or could hold in the past.

And moreover we will and grant by the presents for us our heirs and successors to the aforesaid Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses of the Borough aforesaid and to their successors that they and their successors henceforth and for ever shall have in the Borough aforesaid an upright and discreet man learned in the laws of this realm of England to be elected and named in form below expressed who shall be and shall be called Steward of the Court of Record of our lord the King of the Borough aforesaid and we have assigned named appointed and made by the presents for us our heirs and successors our well beloved Henry Halford Esqr to be the first and present Steward of the Court of Record of our Lord the King of the Borough aforesaid to have hold enjoy exercise and occupy the office aforesaid by himself or by his sufficient deputy together with all fees wages profits and other advantages whatsoever pertaining to the said office during his good behaviour in that office and we will that the said Henry Halford and his deputies before they proceed to the execution of their office aforesaid shall take bodily oath upon the holy Gospels before the Mayor of the Borough aforesaid to execute that office faithfully in all things.

And moreover we will and grant and by the presents for us our heirs and successors to the aforesaid Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses of the Borough aforesaid and to their successors that they and their successors henceforth for ever shall have within the Borough aforesaid an upright and discreet man to be elected and nominated in form expressed below who shall be and shall be called the Bailiff of the Liberty of our Borough or town of Leicester aforesaid and keeper of our Gaol for the Borough aforesaid and by the presents we have assigned nominated appointed and made for us our heirs and successors our well beloved William Maior Gentleman to be the first and present Bailiff of the Liberty of the Borough or town of Leicester aforesaid and keeper of our Gaol in the Borough aforesaid and that the same William Maior may have enjoy and exercise that office together with all wages fees rewards profits and advantages whatsoever pertaining to the said office so long as he behave himself well in the same and that the same William Maior before he proceed to the execution of the office aforesaid shall take bodily oath upon the Holy Gospels

before the Mayor of the Borough aforesaid to execute that office faithfully in all things.

And moreover we will and grant by the presents for us our heirs and successors to the aforesaid Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses of the Borough aforesaid and to their successors that they and their successors henceforth for ever shall have within the Borough aforesaid an upright and discreet man to be elected and nominated in the form expressed below who shall be and shall be called the Common Clerk or Clerk of the Peace of the Borough aforesaid (called in English the Towne Clerke) and by the presents we have assigned nominated appointed and made for us our heirs and successors our well beloved John Huckle Gentleman to be the first and present Common Clerk or Clerk of the Peace of the Borough aforesaid and that he the said John Huckle may have enjoy and exercise that office together with all fees rewards profits and advantages whatsoever pertaining to the said office for so long as he shall behave himself well in the same and that the said John Huckle before he proceeds to the execution of the office aforesaid shall take a bodily oath on the Holy Gospels before the Mayor of the Borough aforesaid to execute that office faithfully in all things.

And moreover we will and grant by the presents for us our heirs and successors to the aforesaid Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses of the Borough aforesaid and their successors that they and their successors henceforth for ever shall have within the Borough aforesaid five officers of whom one shall be and shall be called the Mace bearer (le Mace bearer) and of whom the other four shall be and shall be called Sergeants at Mace which officers shall be attendants upon the Mayor of the Borough aforesaid for the time being and shall serve in the Court of Record in the Borough aforesaid and shall execute and fulfil proclamations arrests executions processes and mandates and all other matters pertaining to the office of Sergeant at Mace in the Borough aforesaid and its limits and precincts from time to time, and we assign name appoint and make by the presents for us our heirs and successors our well beloved William Orton to be the first and present officer called the Macebearer in the Borough aforesaid and we will and grant that the aforesaid Mayor and Aldermen of the Borough aforesaid or the greater part of them may elect and nominate four other upright and discreet men inhabitants of the town aforesaid to be Sergeants at Mace within the Borough aforesaid and that the aforesaid William Orton and the said other Sergeants at Mace to be elected as is aforesaid shall take respectively a bodily oath upon the Holy Gospels before the Mayor of the Borough aforesaid for the time being from time to time

to well and faithfully execute their offices respectively and that they may have enjoy and exercise their offices together with all wages fees profits and advantages whatsoever respectively pertaining to their said offices until they be respectively or any one of them respectively be removed from their offices aforesaid by the Mayor and Aldermen of the Borough aforesaid for the time being or by the greater part of them.

We have moreover granted and do grant for us our heirs and successors by the presents to the aforesaid Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses of the Borough aforesaid and to their successors that the Mayor Recorder Deputy-Recorder and four of the Aldermen of the same Borough, who were last Mayors of the same Borough, for the time being shall be during the time that they shall be in office keepers of the peace of us our heirs and successors within the Borough aforesaid and also Justices of us our heirs and successors to keep the said peace in the said Borough and that the said Justices or any three of them of whom the Mayor and Recorder or Deputy-Recorder for the time being shall be two shall have full power and authority by the presents to hold from time to time Sessions of the peace and gaol deliveries for the Borough aforesaid and to hear and determine in the same Sessions all offences and misdeeds and to do and execute all other things that pertain to Justices of the peace in as ample manner and form as any Justices of our peace can hear determine do and execute.

We also will and ordain by the presents for us our heirs and successors and we firmly order that Thomas Ludlam now Mayor of the Borough aforesaid before he be admitted to the execution of the office of Mayor and the office of Justice of the Peace by virtue of the presents shall take separate bodily oaths upon the Holy Gospels to execute well and faithfully the offices of Mayor and Justice of the Peace within the Borough aforesaid and all other oaths (in English oathes) in this behalf required by the laws and statutes of this our realm of England to be taken by a Mayor or Justice of the Peace, before the Aldermen constituted by the presents or any three of them to which Aldermen or any three of them we give and grant by the presents full power and authority to give and administer such oaths to the aforesaid Thomas Ludlam without procuring or obtaining any other warrant or commission from us in this behalf.

Moreover we will and grant by the presents that the Recorder Deputy-Recorder Justices of the Peace Aldermen Steward Coroner Bailiff of the Liberty the Common Clerk the Bailiffs the Burgesses and Sergeants at Mace of the Borough aforesaid and each of them nominated and appointed in these presents shall take bodily oaths

respectively upon the Holy Gospels to execute well and faithfully their respective offices before the said Thomas Ludlam and all other oaths in this behalf required to be taken in such offices respectively by the laws and statutes of this our realm of England and each of them respectively shall take [such oaths] before the aforesaid Thomas Ludlam now Mayor of the Borough aforesaid to which Thomas Ludlam we give and grant full power and authority by the presents to give and administer all such oaths to such persons and officers and each of them respectively without procuring or obtaining any other warrant or commission from us in this behalf.

And moreover we will and grant for us our heirs and successors to the aforesaid Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses of the Borough aforesaid and to their successors that whenever it shall happen that any Mayor of the Borough aforesaid Recorder Steward Bailiff of the Liberty Common Clerk Aldermen Bailiff of the Borough Coroner Burgess of the Common Council of the Borough aforesaid the Macebearer the Sergeant at Mace of the Borough aforesaid or any other officer or minister of the Borough aforesaid shall die or be removed from their respective office that then and in each such case some other fit person or persons shall be appointed and sworn to and in those offices respectively void in such place time and manner by the Mayor and Aldermen or the Mayor Aldermen and Common Council of the Borough aforesaid respectively as was wont in like case in the Borough aforesaid in this behalf in times past.

We also will and grant that each person who shall hereafter be nominated or appointed Deputy-Recorder shall before he be admitted to the execution of the office of Deputy-Recorder or Justice of the Peace within the Borough aforesaid take bodily oath upon the Holy Gospels before the Mayor of the Borough aforesaid for the time being to execute that office well and faithfully and also all other oaths required by the laws and statutes of this our realm of England to be taken by such Deputy-Recorder or Justice of our peace.

Moreover we will and grant for us our heirs and successors to the aforesaid Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses of the Borough aforesaid and to their successors that the said Mayor and Aldermen and their successors shall have hold use and exercise all such and such manner of privileges liberties powers authorities jurisdictions votes suffrages franchises and profits in the same and in such ample manner and form for all intentions and purposes whatsoever as the Mayor and Aldermen of the Borough aforesaid for the time being were wont or could have hold enjoy use and exercise in times past; and that the aforesaid

thirty six Burgesses of the Common Council of the Borough aforesaid and their successors shall and may and ought to have enjoy use and exercise all such and as many and the same privileges liberties powers jurisdictions franchises voices and profits in the same and in as ample manner and form for all intentions and purposes whatsoever as the late Common Council of the Borough aforesaid consisting of forty eight burgesses commonly called the Company of Forty Eight were wont or could have hold enjoy use and exercise, which Common Council of the Borough aforesaid called the Company of Forty Eight we abolish by the present and decree and declare to be wholly abolished, and that the aforesaid two Bailiffs of the Borough aforesaid and their successors for the time being may and ought to have hold enjoy and exercise all such and as many and the same powers authorities privileges franchises votes and profits in the same and in as ample manner and form for all intentions and purposes whatsoever as the Chamberlains (in English the Chamberlaines) of the Borough aforesaid, which Chamberlains we abolish by the present and decree and declare to be wholly abolished, or their predecessors had held enjoyed or exercised or could or should have had held enjoyed or exercised in times past, and that the Mayor Aldermen and the Thirty Six Burgesses of the Common Council of the Borough aforesaid and their successors for the time being shall may and ought to have enjoy hold and exercise all such as many and the same powers authorities privileges franchises votes and profits in as ample manner and form for all intentions and purposes whatsoever as the Mayor Aldermen and Common Council of the Borough aforesaid called the Company of the Eight and Forty or their predecessors in times past had held enjoyed or exercised or could or ought to have had held enjoyed or exercised.

We will also and by the presents establish and ordain for us our heirs and successors that henceforth for ever the Burgesses serving in each and all Parliaments of us our heirs and successors for the Borough aforesaid shall be elected appointed and nominated out of the Burgesses of the Borough aforesaid by all the Burgesses of the same Borough and other Inhabitants of the Borough aforesaid who are at scot and lot [qui sunt de la Scott et Lott] in the Borough aforesaid or by the greater number of them, and that the Burgesses who shall be thus elected and nominated shall be returned (in English shall bee retorneed) by the Mayor and Bailiff of the Liberty of the Borough aforesaid for the time being in such manner and form as was wont in such case in the Borough aforesaid in times past.

And moreover we graciously affecting the aid of the Borough

aforesaid and to increase the commerce and trade within the Borough aforesaid do give and grant of our especial grace and of our certain knowledge and mere notion by the presents for us our heirs and successors to the aforesaid Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses of the Borough aforesaid and to their successors that they and their successors henceforth and for ever shall have and hold in some suitable place within the Borough aforesaid to be assigned and appointed by the Mayor and Aldermen of the Borough aforesaid for the time being yearly on Saturday next before the day of palms commonly called Palm Sunday a certain fair for all beasts and other merchandise and wares whatsoever and that the aforesaid Mayor Aldermen and Burgesses of the Common Council of the Borough aforesaid and their successors for the time being shall have the ordering disposition and governing of the fair aforesaid, and that they and their successors from time to time may nominate and assign a Steward and Stewards of the fair: provided that the fair aforesaid be not to the nuisance of any neighbouring fair.

We also give and grant and confirm by the presents for us our heirs and successors of our more ample grace and of our certain knowledge and mere motion to the aforesaid Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses of the Borough aforesaid and their successors all jurisdictions powers and authorities which are not changed or altered by these our present Letters Patent, and also all and singular manors messuages lands tenements liberties free customs privileges immunities exemptions acquittances markets fairs courts and hereditaments whatsoever that the Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses of the Borough aforesaid or the Mayor and Burgesses of the Borough or Town of Leicester or the Burgesses of the Borough or Town aforesaid by whatsoever name of incorporation had held exercised or enjoyed or could have lawfully have held enjoyed or exercised heretofore from any right cause or title whatsoever: to have to the same Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses of the Borough aforesaid and to their successors; to be held of us our heirs and successors by the rents and services previously due to us therefrom and of right rendered and in the same manner and form as the Burgesses of the Borough aforesaid by whatsoever name of incorporation held them of us formerly.

Moreover we will and grant and declare by the presents for us our heirs and successors that neither these our present letters nor anything contained in them shall be in any wise prejudicial to the aforesaid Theophilus Earl of Huntingdon or to his heirs, or shall be in any wise expounded held construed or judged to invalidate or destroy any

covenants grants or agreements heretofore had or made between the Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses of the Borough aforesaid, Theophilus Earl of Huntingdon or Henry late Earl of Huntingdon or any other ancestor of Theophilus Earl of Huntingdon in all manner whatsoever, but that they and each of them shall remain in full vigour and effect for all intentions and purposes whatsoever just as if these our Letters Patent had not been made.

Provided always by these presents we do reserve full power and authority to us our heirs and successors from time to time forever hereafter to remove and declare to be removed from their office respectively any Mayor Recorder Deputy-Recorder Steward Alderman Coroner Bailiff of the Liberty Common Clerk or Clerk of the Peace Bailiff of the Borough or any one or more of the Burgesses of the Common Council the Mace Bearer Sergeant at Mace of the Borough aforesaid for the time being at the will and pleasure of us our heirs and successors by any order of us our heirs and successors made in the Privy Council of us our heirs and successors and signified to them under the Seal of the Privy Council aforesaid and as often as we shall declare by any such order made in the Privy Council that such Mayor Recorder Deputy-Recorder Steward Alderman Coroner Bailiff of the Liberty Common Clerk Bailiff of the Borough Burgess of the Common Council Mace Bearer Sergeant at Mace of the same Borough for the time being to be removed from their respective offices that then after such order has been signified the Mayor Recorder Deputy-Recorder Steward Alderman Coroner Bailiff of the Liberty Common Clerk Bailiff of the Borough Burgess of the Common Council Mace bearer Sergeant at Mace of the same Borough for the time being or any one or more of them thus removed or declared to be removed from their several and respective offices aforesaid, *ipso facto* and without any further process they shall be removed actually and to all intents and purposes whatsoever, and this so often as such a case shall happen anything to the contrary notwithstanding;

Saving also to all and singular bodies corporate and Politic and other person or persons whatsoever all rights liberties preeminences and jurisdictions whatsoever other than those granted to the aforesaid Mayor Bailiffs and Burgesses as is aforesaid which they or any of them had and enjoyed of right and lawfully before and at the time of the making of these our Letters Patent in as ample manner and form as if these our Letters Patent had never been made.

In testimony of which matter we have caused these our Letters to

be made Patent. Witness myself at Westminster 10th day of December
in the thirty sixth year of our reign.

Pigott

by writ of Privy Seal

For a Fine in the Hanaper

£3. 6. 8.

Guilford C. S.

DCCCLXX. *Letter from Lord Huntingdon*

Hall Papers XIX, No. 174. [3 Feb. 1684/5.]

M^r Major

Yesterday in the morning His Majesty was seized with a dangerous fitt but is nowe God bee praised in a fair way of recovery, the phisitians assuring the Lords of the Councill this afternoone that the danger is past I thought it proper for mee to acquaint you heer with to prevent false reports; and with all to advise you that if you shall find any persons, passengers or others, raising any malitious storys, contradicting the relation I nowe give you; that you should committ them to Goale, till they find their authors, that they may be punished as spreaders of false news of so high a nature. * *

Huntingdon.

[Hall Papers XIX, No. 175. [No date.] Letter from Sir H. Beaumont saying the King is dead.]

DCCCLXXI. *Letter from Lalarter*

Hall Papers XIX, No. 186. [14 Feb. 1684/5.]

Sir

We are gott into the most peaceable age that men have yet lived in, and if we be not wanting to ourselves I doubt not but God will be pleased to continue it to us; My Lord of Huntingdon is desirous to have the addresse be sent signed and returned forthwith, that the Deputy Recorder and I with others may waite upon him to his Maiestie before we leave London: many have delivered their addresses and I hope Leicester will not be the last. * *

your very humble servant

Clements Inne 14 Feb: 1684.

Lalater.

DCCCLXXII. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1683-84*

Item Mr Newton Vicar of St Martin Leicester for chamber belonging to the Towne hall and now used with the Vicaredg house at will per annum 2s. 6d.

Fees Wages etc.

Item paid Mr John Newton the present Lecturer allowed by a Common hall the second day of February 1667 for his yearly sallary dureing pleasure £30.

Item paid to Mr Fox Vicar of St Maries Leicester being the Towne free guift dureing pleasure £10.

Item paid for Ale for severall persons that helped the secureing the West Bridg upon the Thawe of the great frost from the Ice that came downe the water 2s.

Item paid for three pounds of Gunpowder for burying three souldiers at severall times 3s.

Noe gunpowder allowed for the future.

Item paid for two wood kidds for burneing Cassaltry flesh at the Corne wall 6d.

Item paid to the Engineer the 4th day of June for trying and playing the Engine by Mr Maiors order 4s. 9d.

Repaires.

Item paid John Fellowes and his Labourers for worke done at the Spittle Bridg and Cawsey as appeares by bill 16s./10.

Taxes.

Item paid to George Groce for a tax laide upon Sparkenhoe hundred for a Robery therein committed 3s. 6d.

Supers allowed for.

Item for a Chamber laid to the Vicaridg house from the Towne hall to be paid yearly by the Vicar of St Martins 2s. 6d.

	£ s. d.
Charge	75 <i>1.</i> 9. 11
Discharge	7 <i>17.</i> 7. 3 <i>½</i>
Due to C.'s	5. 10. 9 <i>½</i>

DCCCLXXIII. *Letter from Sir H. Beaumont*

Hall Papers XIX, No. 221. [23 May 1685.] This day the Rabble were very disorderly upon the pilloring of Oates they are apprehending them, There is likewise some taken in Scotland who give intelligence that the Rebels are with 3 ships upon that Coast, the King was pleased to tell us that he doubts not the intercepting them having sent his men of war after them, all this Town (which is more populous now then ever) are transported with joy at the good Correspondence between King and Parliament.

From my lodgings the 3 Sugar Loaves Westminster.

DCCCLXXIV. *Petition to the King from the Master and Assistants of the Hospital of the Holy Trinity in the Newark*

Hall Papers XIX, No. 214. [No date.] Sheweth. That whereas by ye Royal Bounty of ye Maiestyes most noble Predecessors Certain fee farm Rents to ye yearly Value of £230. 3. 2. have been antiently paid by yr Receivors of yr Maiestyes Revenues of ye Duchy of Lancaster to your Petitioners for ye maintenance and support of ye said Hospitall and ye poor people there Residing And also 20 marks yearly for the masters fee.

That about 6 years since the Trustees for ye sale of ye fee farm Rents and other Rents of his late Maiesty of ever blessed memory Have alyened part of ye Rents usually allowed to ye Petitioners for ye Charitable use aforesaid so that the Rents now remaining unsold are not sufficient to answer ye said Allowance to ye Petitioners and other payments where with they are charged but fall short thereof £24 and upwarde斯 yearly besides the masters fee whereby ye weekly pay of the said Poor people which at ye best was but one penny a day to each of them is greatly impaired and the said Hospitall is in danger of utter destruction if your Royall Clemency prevent it not. Your Peticioners therefore * * humbly beseech * * that your Maiesty would * * order the Trustees for the sale of Your Maiestyes fee farm rents to convey and assure to your Petitioners or such other persons as Your Maiesty shall thinke fittinge Certain fee farm Rents to ye yearly value aforesaid for ye perpetual support of ye said Hospitall According to the instructions conteyned in the Statute made in ye 22nd year of the reign of his late Maiesty of Happy Memory for ye sale of His Maiestyes fee farm Rents and other Rents.

And your Peticioners etc.

DCCCLXXV. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XIX, No. 24. [12 June 1685.] That the affaires and busines concerneing the pay of the poore of the Hospitall of the holy Trinity now in arreare and setling the same for the future, according to a petition in their behalfe presented to the King which is referred to the Lord High Treasurer, be left to the management of Nathan Wright the Deputy-Recorder Mr William Browne the Towne Solicitor, And all charges expended therein to be at the Corporations charge.

DCCCLXXVI. *Meeting of Mayor and Commissioners*

Hall Papers XX, No. 26. [17 June 1685.] It is agreed at this meeting that Thomas Newton now Cryer of this Burrough shall have a Lease of all the Stalls out of Lease (except such as are under the eaves of the house or Penthouses of any person within the Burrough) And that the said Thomas shall have the setting of the said stalls from this day both in faires and markets, untill Michaelmas next from which day his lease is to take place for the terme of seaven yeares from thence next ensewing paying yearly for the same Ten pounds of good money unto the mayor * * * And if any differences shall happen concerneing setting the said stalls eyther at faires or on markett dayes the differences are referred to be heard and determined by the Mayor and Justices of the Peace of the said Burrough for the time being.

DCCCLXXVII. *Letter from Lord Huntingdon*

Hall Papers XIX, No. 243. [25 June 1685.]

Mr Mayor

His Majesty having bin pleased to grant me a commission for a Regiment of foott I intend to raise my owne company in Leicestershire and in order to it have sent My Ensigne Mr Henry Anderson ye bearer hereof to gather with two Serjants to raise the said Company in order to which Service I desire your assistance with in the towne of Leicester and they need not doubt of good usage and all the Care that a Captain ought to take of his soldiers the Ensigne will shewe you His Majestyes warrant under his signe manuel authorising mee to make leveys and musters in pursuance of my Commission as Collonel and Captain Thus not doubting but your townsmen will readyly followe their recorder in the Kings service I rest.

DCCCLXXVIII. *Order for assessment*

Hall Papers XIX, No. 254. [8 July 1685.] Leicester

l. s. d.

Mr Freemans Ward	01. 01. 10	Mr Nobles Ward	01. 01. 2
Mr Hartshorns Ward	00. 10. 04	Belgrave Gate Ward	00. 17. 00
Mr Suttons Ward	00. 16. 00	Mr Southwells Ward	00. 10. 03
Mr Deanes Ward	11. 00	Mr Abneys Ward	00. 10. 02
Mr Roberts North Gate Ward	00. 10. 04	Senvy Gate Ward	00. 06. 00
		Mr Becketts Ward	00. 10. 0

By the Lord Lieutenant.

To the Mayor of the Burrough of Leicester.

Whereas by an Act of Parliament for ordering the forces in the several Counties of Kingdome. It is amongst other things Enacted that for the furnishing of Amunicion and other nessesaries The respective Lieutenants and Deputies or any three or more of them shall have power to lay fitting rates upon ye respective Counties and places not exceeding in the whole in any one yeare the proportion of a fourth part of one Moneths assessment in each County after the rate per mensem of 70000*li* [illegible] Doe therefore persuance of the said Act and for the raising of the said fourth part of one Moneths tax towards the furnishing of Amunicion and other nesesaries for the Militia of ye Countie aforesaid Hereby authorise and Impower you to Issue out your Warrant to two sufficient persons in each Ward for the assessing of the severall sums of money charged upon ye respective Wards within your Burrough of Leicester above written.

[Assessment to be made on real and personal estate and to be levied by distress if necessary.]

Rutland.

DCCCLXXIX. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XX, No. 23. [? 1685.] It is ordered and agreed at this hall that John Alsop Robert Scarburrough Henry ffollenbine and Thomas ffollenbine shall be waites of this Burrough during pleasure, and that the said John Alsop shall have 2 : 3 : 4 as his part of the 20th nobles their yeares sallery; and the said Robert Scarborough Henry ffollenbine and Thomas ffollenbine thirty shillings a piece the remaining parte of the said 20th nobles. And what they gett besides at any time or place shall be equally divided amongst them, and if their shall happen any disagreement or quarrell amongst them Mr Maior and Justices or major part of them shall have the

heareing thereof and make such order therein as in their judgments shall think fitt.

It is ordered and agreed at this meeeting that the by Law graunted to Judg Raymond and Judg Streete for the better government of the Corporacion shall be putt in execucion against any person or persons whatsoever that shall make any irrupcion or infringement of the liberties of this Corporacion.

It is ordered and agreed at this meeeting that the Town Clark shall have ten pounds given him out of the Chamber of the Towne and lent to him out of the Chamber of the Towne ten pounds more upon securitie this towards helping him out of a trouble fallen upon him by entering into security for other persons.

DCCCLXXX. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1684-85*

Item paid to two men for lookeing to the wine in the Conduit at the Kings Coronacion 2*s.*

Item paid the Waites for playing before the Charter by Mr Maiors order 5*s.*

Item paid William Ward for horse hyre and his owne charges to invite Gentlemen to meeete the Charter 4*s.*

Item paid to Joseph Kilby and Richard Poole for watching upon the death of our late Sovereigne King Charles the second of ever blessed memory by Mr Maiors order 5*s.*

Item paid to Mr Alderman Beckett for five score and four kidds for a burnfire at the proclaymeing the King £1. 1. 9.

Item paid to the Waites for their attendance upon the Kings Coronacion day by Mr Maiors order 7*s. 6d.*

Item paid for wine to putt into the Conduit when the Charter came downe att proclaymeing his Maiestie £3. 2. 6.

Item paid the Earle of Huntingdons Keeper when hee brought the doe his honor gave at the feast upon bringing downe the new Charter by Mr Maiors order 11*s. 8d.*

Item paid the Earle of Rutlands Keeper for his fees and charges for the doe hee brought the same time 14*s. 2d.*

Item paid at the same time to Sir Beaumont Dixies Keeper 11*s. 8d.*

Item paid for Ale at Two burne fires upon the newes of the late Duke of Monmouths defeated and taken 5*s.*

Item paid to the Mace bearer for the great seale four times to the writeings in trust for Willoughby lands and Gaynsburrough and fixing the Trustees seales thereunto 6*s. od.*

Item paid for six iron hoops, six rivetts, and three pound of Stubbs to Richard Skelson, to putt on three wooden hammer heads for the prisoners in the Gaole to beate hemp with as appeares by bill 3s. 2d.

Item paid to Arthur Noone for fifteene wood kidds for the Burne fire upon the newes of routing the rebells in the west 3s. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

Item paid for the Exchange of Twelve New Silver Spoones for the Townes use by Mr Maiors order £1. 4. 6.

Item for Engraveing the Townes Coate of Armes and name upon the said Spoons 9s. 0.

Item paid Soaresby for directing the prisoners in our Gaole to beate hemp by Mr Maiors order 1s. 0.

Item paid Mr Wagstaffe fore wine when Mr Maior went to waite upon some of the Deputy Lievetennants when they came to the Towne upon the newes of his Maiesties indisposednes.

Item paid him [George Beckett] more for Tithe of Ringroses piece in Marie meadowes for seaven yeares last past £1. 3. 4.

Repaires.

Item paid to Peter Stubbs and Robert Cooke for Ten acres of ditching in the Cow pasture £1.

Item paid to the Overseers of the poore of St Maries parish for the interest of Ten pounds given to the use of the poore of the said parish by Mr Sherman 12s.

Item paid to William Browne gentlemen the Townse Soliciter for charges about reneweing the Charter and other business £180.

DCCCLXXXI. *Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen*

Hall Papers XX, No. 29. [8 July 1686.] Whereas Mr Edmund Sutton and Mr Edward Wood two of the Aldermen of this Burrough, doe stil continue prisoners in his Maiesties Gaole for the County of Leicester for debt; and are not likely to be discharged of the same in reasonable time of which the Right Honourable the Earle of Huntingdon has been acquainted by some persons; and his Lordship conceiving them not fitt to continue in their places any longer, did by his Letter to Mr Maior signifie his pleasure to have them discharged from their places; And being willing to gratifie his Honour It is therefore ordered at this meeting That the said Mr Sutton and Mr Wood shall bee discharged, And at this meeeting are discharged from their severall and respective places accordingly, and from any further or future attendance therein.

DCCCLXXXII. *Chamberlains' Accounts.* 1685-86*Fees Wages etc.*

Item paid to Robert Lord for his charges to London when hee went thither concerneing Sir William Cliftons Quarter Master £3.

Item paid for straw to lay in the dungeon when a man was committed thither 2d.

Item paid for wine at Mr Cradocks when Mr Maior went to waite on Maior Pursey when hee brought up a regiment of foote goeing to the camp and severall other officers being then there of the said regiment 7s. 0.

Item paid the Towne Clerke for an order of Sessions for rates of wages concerneing servants and ingrossing them 6s. od.

Item paid James Redley for a frame to hang the same in according to Mr Maior and Justices order 1s. 0.

Item paid for wine to Mr Joseph Newton when Mr Maior and Aldermen treated the Bishop of Peter Burrough at the Towne Hall as appeares by bill £1. 12.

Item paid Mr Sherwin Vicar of St Margaretts given him at a Common Hall £10.

Taxes.

Item paid to the Constable of Braunstone gate for a tax for the Corporations Land there towards buying the Country Gaole 3s. 6d.

Souldiers.

Item paid to Mr John Abney for coales for the souldiers that guarded the Armes and ammunicion when they marched out of the North to goe to the camp, when they were laid at the Towne Hall to make them a fire that night 1s. 4d.

Repaires.

Item paid Thomas Hastwell for his worke in raiseing the Northgates higher than they were built up by one yard and an halfe high according to agreement £6. 1.

	£	s.	d.
Charge due to Towne	197.	7.	11
discharge due to Bayliffs	797.	1.	5½
remains due to Towne	100.	6.	6½

DCCCLXXXIII. *Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen*

Hall Papers XX, No. 81. [March 1687.]

M ^r Joseph Cradock Maior	Aldermen then elected
M ^r Francis Noble	M ^r William Bentley
M ^r William Southwell	M ^r John Bent
M ^r Andrew Freeman	M ^r John Brooksby
M ^r William Dean	M ^r William Sheeres
M ^r George Becket	M ^r Edmund Johnson
M ^r Philip Abney	M ^r Mathew Symonds
M ^r George Bent	M ^r Richard Mason
M ^r John Wilkins	M ^r Robert Lord
M ^r Thomas Palmer	M ^r Johnnathan Coleman
M ^r Edmund Cradock	M ^r Henry Treene
M ^r John Payre	M ^r William Warburton.
M ^r John Dann	The Common Council then elected
	Thomas Wallen
	John Kerby
	Joseph Dudley
	William Walker
	Francis Churchman
	William Harris
	Tobias Marshall
	John Hewett
	John Cooke
	John Hughe
	John Buxston senior
	Robert Page senior
	John Davy
	William Page
	Robert Langton
	John Warburton.

At this Meeteing it is agreed that the persons abovenamed, are elected to serve the Corporacion.

DCCCLXXXIV. *Mayor and Commissioners*

Hall Papers XX, No. 59. [17 June 1687.] It is ordered at this meeeting that M^r John Hardy senior Bayliff shall pay unto Mr Henry Hargrave Twenty pounds heretofore given to him towards building a loft in St Martins Church for the Gentleweomen schollars to his wife, except five shillings hee promised the mace bearer for summoning a Common Hall concerneing agreeing for a Lease of the great house for 21^{tie} yeares.

DCCCLXXXV. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1686-87**Fees Wages etc.*

Item paid upon Christmas faire day when the schollers declaymed for bunn Ale and Tobacco and pipes 9s.

Item paid to Francis Annis for the charges of him selfe and his horse when hee went to guide Mayor Dale and the three Troops to Dainty 7s. 6d.

Item paid Josuah Goodrich for mending the fire brand for markeing the weights and measures, being the sinque foile the Towne Armes 10d.

Item paid to the Quartermaster of the Duke of Barwicks foot Regiment to provide carriages and quarters for severall foot souldiers to ease the Towne £1.

Item paid Mr John Pares for the feast held upon Munday the seaventh of February last for rejoycing for his Maiesties happy comeing to the Crowne for Ale wine tobacco and pipes as appeares by bill £4. 2. 0.

Item paid Mr Wagstaffe for wine sent to the Towne hall when Judg Jennard went from the bench to the parlour by Mr Maiors order as appeares by bill 8s./o.

Repaires.

Item paid for wine when Captaine Barnes and other officers of the Earle of Hundsdom come to mee at the Redd Lyon to receive ticks for parte of his regiments quartering in Towne 3s.

DCCCLXXXVI. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XX, No. 89. [28 May 1688.] It were voted at this Hall whether sign an Address to present to his Majestie according to a form sent to Mr Maior by the Right Hon^{ble} the Earle of Huntingdon, yea or no, and there were but 3 voted for it and the rest against it.

[There were 59 present.]

DCCCLXXXVII. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XX, No. 92. [27 June 1688.] It is agreed at this Hall that a day of feasting and rejoicing be kept at the house of Joseph Cradock Esq^r Maior at the Angell in Leicester for the Birth of the young Prince on Sunday next, the day appointed for thanksgiving for the Birth of the young Prince aforesaid, And that Mr William Ward and Mr William Walker the two Coroners for this Burrough together with Thomas Ward and Robert Hobson, the two Bailiffs for the said

Burrough, be intrusted with the managment of the said ffeast. And that the said two Coroners and the two Bailiffs shall use their discretion concerning the summe to be then spent according as they shall see occasion, And it is alsoe agreed that the said ffeast shall be at the charge of the Corporation It is alsoe agreed at this Hall that it shall be left to Nathan Wright Esqr Deputy-Recorder of this Burrough to present tenn Guineys to the Chancellor of the Dutchey for his kindness to this Corporation concerning the old Hospitall.

DCCCLXXXVIII. *Meeting of Mayor and Aldermen*

Hall Papers XX, No. 106. [4 Dec. 1688.] At this meeting William Maior Gentleman Bayliff of the said Burrough being formerly turned out of his place with [*illegible*] Aldermen and Common Councill men and the Towne Clerke by the Kinges command and being restored by the Kings proclamacion was desired and much implored by all present to accept of his said office againe but he refused and could not be persuaded.

DCCCLXXXIX. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XX, No. 114. [?1688.] It is ordered at this Hall that the Aldermen who have not appeared this day and who have not sent their Charity to the Chamberlaines towards the better relief of the poore widows of St Johns shall pay to the present Chamberlaines one shilling a peice, and every one of the Company of the Eight and fyforty who have not appeared this day nor sent to the Chamberlaines their Charity for the said poore widows six pence a peice.

It is alsoe agreed at this meeteing that the Company of the four and Twentie and the Company of the eight and fyforty shall yearlye appeare upon the seaven and Twentieth day of December at the Guild Hall of this Burrough without any summons and then waite upon Mr Maior for the time in their Gownes, being to heare a sermon preached at All Saints Church or in the Hospitall of St John's Chamber their to extend their Charity to and for the better mainteynance of the poore widows of the said Hospitall, and these that appeare not of the Company of the four and Twenty nor sende their Charity to the Chamberlaines shall upon demaund pay to the Chamberlaynes for the use of the said poore one shilling and those of the eight and fyforty who appeare not as aforesaid nor send their Charity to the Chamberlaines as aforesaid shall pay each of them sixpence for and towards the relieve of the poore widows of St Johns Hospitall aforesaid.

DCCCXC. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XX, No. 118. [19 Feb. 1688.] Question whether the ffarmers of the Towne Tennants of the South fielde and the ffarmers of St Margarets fieldes and other teames in the Towne shall have allowed them sixpence a mile upon the Kings service dureing pleasure.

20 strokes for, 26 strokes against.

DCCCXCI. *Common Hall*

Hall Papers XX, No. 120. [1688-9.] Memorandum That all persons marked with the letter S, subscribed the Association before and at the Hall tendered to them.

[N.B. Of the four and twenty. The Mayor and 19 others: of the eight and forty, 16 but the other names are illegible.]

DCCCXCII. *Petition of Thomas Newton, Crier*

Hall Papers XX, No. 147. [No date.]

To the Right Worshipfull the Maior and Aldermen and
the Common Counsell Assembled.

The humble petition of Thomas Newton your poore
servant and Cryer

Sheweth

That dureing all times of the souldiers passing and repassing and quartering within the Burrough your peticoner has alwaies been ready day and night to obey Mr Maiors Commande, and taken a greate deale of paines in summoning Constables, and giveing notice for Carriages, provideing Coales Candles and bread for the guarde, and all other imployments concerneing the same, which was noe little trouble and paines, haveing never received anything for my paines running up and downe

Your peticoners humbly praied this worshipfull society to allow something to your peticoner for the great trouble

And your peticoner shall ever pray.

Graunted to Newton your peticoner
20s. and to Ogden the Beadle 10s.

DCCCXCIII. *Petition of Anthony Wagstaffe, Innholder*

Hall Papers XX, No. 148. [No date.]

To the right worshipfull the Maior and Aldermen and the
Common Councell now assembled

The humble petition of Anthony Wagstaffe of the Burrough
of Leicester Inholder

Sheweth

That your peticioner finding that working as a journey man of his trade would not mainteyne himselfe and his family, and being lately disabled to worke thereon, did take of John Mason the elder the Inn hee kept, and laid out what stock hee had and more in furnishing the house, hoping hee might have kept the same under his Landlords proteccion, but it being contrary to the auncient custome and privilidge not to suffer a stranger to follow that employ, unless free of the Corporacion, your peticioner therefore in obedience thereunto was laying up money to purchase the same, untill (as others were) burthened with souldiers whose carriage was soe rude that your peticioners guests were forct from him with their unsatisfied appetites, and receiveing soe little of some and nothing from many, for meate and drink, that had their continuance of quartering been a little longer your peticioner had been totally ruined and undone, which makes your peticioner at present uncapable to pay the great fine at such times as your peticioner is informed you have ordered, and your peticioner not willing to assume to himselfe any liberty without your leave and license to keepe the house any longer.

Humbly praies your worshipps the premisses considered to graunt your peticioner the freedome of the Burrough and soe favourable that the fine may be paid in by a small yearely payment.

And your peticioner and his family as in duty bound shall ever pray &c.

Not agreed to.

DCCCXCIV. *Petition of Robert Lord*

Hall Papers XX, No. 213. [No date.]

To the right worshipfull John Bent Esq^r Maior of the Burrough of Leicester and the worshipfull the Aldermen his bretheren.

The humble petition of Robert Lord of the said Burrough
Sheweth

That your peticioner being heretofore by the good esteeme you demonstrated towards me, I was Elected on your Company of the Common Councell, and in my continuance therein, did my duty to the best of my ability, to serve the Corporacion, but afterwards, some unhappy misconstruccions of my reall intencion, was turned out of that Society, and some years aftere in the late King James reigne (though) contrary to my inclinacion, was chosen one of the Aldermen of the said Burrough; and afterwards according to the Charter, wherein I was first chosen, returned to my first capacity since which I perceive I have not the favour amongst some members.

Therefore your peticioner is desireous to be discharged from your peticioners future attendance as a member in the Society of this Corporacion, and humbly beggs your discharge from thence, upon such reasonable fine (I hope) as lately has been favourably imposed upon members in my capacity.

And your peticioner will referr the fine to your worshipps.

And your peticioner for this your Worshippes respects as in duty bound shall ever pray.

DCCCXCV. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1687-88*

Item received of Mr Philipp Abney for his fine for four yard land £94. 10. 0.

Item of Mr John Wilkins for his fine for three yard land and an halfe £82. 15. 0.

Item of Mr John Pratt for his fine for three yard land £70. 17. 6.

Item of Mr Thomas Ward for his fine for three yard land £70. 17. 6.

Item of Mr George Beckett for his fine for the Tith hay of Mary Meadowes Burgess meadowes and other places £34. 0. 0.

Memorandum that the aforesaid tennants paying their fines one yeare beforehand upon emergent occasions, the Corporacion allowed them interest for that yeare after six pounds per cent.

Fees Wages etc.

Item paid Mr Maior for Guymnes he gave Mr Boyer the first Regulator £5. 7. 6.

Item paid to him more hee gave to the second Regulator £3. 4. 6.

Item paid the Mace bearer for a letter hee sent to Mr Turvile of Aston to invite him to dynner at the feast for rejoycing at the birth of the Prince of Wales 6d.

Item to the foote souldiers when they came out of the North and kept guard at the Towne Hall for Coales and Ale 1s. 9d.

Item to more foote souldiers that kept guard at the Towne hall for coales and Ale Tobacco and pipes 6s. 1½d.

Item paid more for fewell and Ale Tobacco and pipes for foote souldiers that kept Guard at the Towne hall two nights 12s.

Repaires.

Item paid Thomas Mason for twenty wood kids and three furze 5s. 3d.

Item paid Mr Southwell for twenty four kids for ye burne fire the 16th day of June for the Prince of Wales birth and for carriage and fetching them out of the yard 5s. 6d.

Item paid Arthur Noone upon the day of Thanksgiving for the said princes birth for twenty kidds and bringing the same to the burnfire 5s. 6d.

	£ s. d.
Received	1053. 11. 5½
Paid	1035. 15. 5½
Supers	8. 4. 7½
Paid Hosp.	7. 17. 7¼
Remainder due to Towne	1. 18. 9¼

DCCCXCVI. *Chamberlains' Accounts. 1688-89*

Item paid to William Higgs and Giles Coker libery keepers £3.
[Used to be Higgs alone.]

Item paid at the Angell for two bottles of sack when Mr Maior and some Aldermen mett to consider what to write to the King concerneing the Regulacion 4s. od.

Item paid to John Nutter and seaven other men upon the request of the Right Honorable the Earle of Northampton and the Lord Grey to Mr Mayor to scout abroade severall waies upon the roades about the Towne that night for their paines and horse hyre by Mr Maiors order 18s.

Item paid to seaven and Twenty Trayne souldiers for keeping watch one night and a day when her highnes the Princess Ann of Denmarke did lye in the Towne £2. 0. 6.

Item paid to M^r John Cracrost for a Banquett to her highnes the said Princess £5.

Item paid to M^r Cradock at the feast at the Coronacion of King William and Queene Mary for ordinaries, Ale wine Tobacco and pipes and for four flasks of Clarett and Two bottles of sack as appeares by bill £11. 14. 5.

Item paid more to him for wine when M^r Maior and severall Aldermen went to waite upon the Lord Commissioner Rawlinson as appeares by bill £2. 17. 6.

Item paid to M^r John Pare for wine when the King and Queene were proclaymed as appeares by bill. £2. 12.

Item paid to John Goddard Thomas Newton and John Ogden for watching the night Princess Anne of Denmarke did lye in the Towne by M^r Maiors order. 3s.

Item paid John Beaumont for goeing to Northampton to bring intelligence concerneing the truth of the Irish marching this way and for his horse hyre and charges by M^r Maiors order. 8s. od.

Item paid to Samuel Holmes and John Davie for their charges and horse hyre goeing to Harborough to bring intelligence concerneing the march of the said Irish. 12s.

Item paid to Richard Wilkins for his charges and horse hyre goeing scouting concerneing the said Irish and to bring intelligence from Northampton and other places. 5s.

Item paid to John Nutter for himself and horse hyre when he went towards Nottingham to bring intelligence of the princess Anne of Denmarkes coming to the Towne and how neare shee was 2s.

Item paid to a Quartermaster on the behalfe of the farmers to charge Teames in the Countrie for the carrying their Maiesties carriages by M^r Maiors order £1. 10. 0.

Item paid John Bass for goeing one rainey night to stop the march of a regiment that did lye at Upingham for comeing that night by the officer in chiefs to Command, the Towne being already over charged with souldiers 8s.

Item paid to the messenger that brought the Prince of Orange Circuletter for a Parliament by M^r Maiors order. 2s. 6d.

Item paid M^r William Stretton for Ale brandy bread pipes and tobacco when M^r Maior and Aldermen waited for her highnes Princess Ann of Denmarke £2. 2. 6d.

Item the same night when the Town Clerke, Chamberlyns, and others were appointed all night as a guard to waite for the packett 11*s.* 6*d.*

Item paid to M^r John Burdett for halfe a pound of powder to severall souldiers to shoote when King William and Queene Mary was proclaymed. 6*d.*

Item paid the Waites for playing at the Coronacion of King William and Queene Mary by M^r Maiors order. 10*s.*

Item paid for the horse hyre of the Towne Clerke and Chamberlaine Roberts when they went to make Entrie of a meadow ground at Botcheston given by M^r Edward Palmer to the widowes of St Johns hospitall and their charges. 4*s.* 6*d.*

Item paid to an officer for to march by the Towne with seaventy souldiers ordered to quarter that night in the Towne the Towne being then full of souldiers by M^r Maiors order 15*s.*

Item paid to M^r Edward Wagstaffe towards buying a plate to be Run for in the Abbey meadowes by M^r Maiors order. £2.

Item paid Thomas Newton Cryer and John Ogden Beadle for their paynes in summoning carriages, and saddle horses and the Constables severall daies and times to be ready upon their Maiesties service allowed by a Common Hall. £1. 10.

Item paid John Cotes for Thirty Kidds for a Burne fire upon proclaymeing King William and Queene Mary 7*s.* 6*d.*

Item paid more of Thirty six kidds for a Burne fire upon ye Coronacion of the King and Queene and for carriage thereof. 10*s.*

Item spent on the Tennant at Allexton when hee brought his rent in frost and snowe 1*s.*

Repaires.

Item paid for carrying earth to and from the ditche throwne up at the gates next the Lane leadeing to Swans Mill ordered by Collonell Lyster for stopping the passage into the Newarke £1. 6.

APPENDIX

(*The following were omitted from their proper place.*)

Hall Book, p. 432. *The names of all such persons as became freemen of the Borough, etc., 1621—1622.*

William Hartshorne husbandman made free by Mr Maior and the Chamberlyns the xxvijth of September according to an order made at the Common Hall houlden on St Mathewes Day last his fyne xs.

The order for Hartshornes freedome.

It is agreed by a generall Consent that William Hartshorne husbandman shalbe made a freeman of this Corporacion payinge such fyne as Mr Maior and the Chamberlyns that now be shall ascesse But is not allowed any freedome or priviledge by reason that his Mother was made a freewoman. Neither is it thought fit that any woman be hereafter made free of this Corporacion.

Hall Book, p. 467. Election of Mayor etc. St Mathews Day 1626.

Daniell Murfin for that he cannot write is by most voyces discharged from beinge Chamberlyne hereafter payinge x^{li} for a fyne.

Thomas Chapman upon the lyke reasons is allso discharged from beinge Chamberlyn hereafter payinge for his fyne v^{li} see the file.

[Daniel Murfin was Mayor 1637—1638.]

Hall Papers X, p. 578 [March 27, 1640]. Letter from Roger Smith refusing to stand as one of the Burgesses for Leicester in Parliament. He says he would not refuse “were it not that it is now made knowne unto me that I must take an oath (whereof never harde nor dreamed before) whereto I cannot assent.”

LIST OF RECORDERS, MAYORS, ETC.

1603—1689

RECORDERS.

1603	John Stamford ¹	1680	Nathan Wright
1603	Augustine Nicolls	1685	{Theophilus, Earl of Huntingdon, Recorder Nathan Wright, Deputy Recorder
1612	Francis Harvey		
1624	Thomas Chapman		
1653	James Winstanley	1689	Nathan Wright
1662	Robert Harding ²		

MAYORS' CLERKS OR CLERKS OF THE PEACE.

1572	Will. Dethick	John Beeby (1645—1646) held the office temporarily
1608	Roger Halfelde or Hawfelde	
1621	Nicholas Bolyvant	1646 Hugh Aston
1635	Richard Martin	1653 Abell Coles
1640	Edward Palmer ³	1660–64 Edward Palmer
		1664 John Huckle

BAILIFFS.

1603–1621	John Wilne	1618	William Hunt
1603	John Mabbes	1619	James Ellis
1604	John Mabbes	1620	John Blounte
1605	Lebbeus Chamberlyn	1621	John Nurse
1606	Thomas Manbie	1622–41	Robert Wright
1607	John Freake	1622	Gilbert Fawsit
1608	John Bonnett	1623	Francis Churchman
1609	John Woodford	1624	William Billers
1610	[names of Bailiffs omitted]	1625	Roger Cotes
1611	" "	1626	Thomas Smith
1612	Nicholas Gillott	1627	[no name given
1613	John Pare	1628	"]
1614	William Ludlam	1629	W ^m Davie
1615	John Hynde	1630	Hugh Wattes
1616	Henry Palmer	1631	no list
1617	William Vickers	1632	Ralph Tompson

¹ John Stamford was elected Recorder in July and died in December, Augustine Nicoll was elected in his place.

² Robert Harding was elected "upon the surrender of James Winstanley."

³ Edward Palmer was dismissed for offences against the "Government and the Committee of this Garrison."

1633	Paul Abney	1662	William Callis
1634	Richard Inge, gent.	1663	Edmund Townsend
1635	Richard Chapman	1664	John Norrice
1636	Daniel Murfyn	1665	Francis Coulman
1637	John Norrice	1666	William Southwell
1638	William Stanley	1667	Robert Hartshorne
1639	Dannett Abney	1668	Edmund Sutton
1640	John Somerfeild	1669	Edmund Sutton
1641	William Speechley	1670	John Roberts
1642	John Beeby	1671	William Stubbins
1642-56	Thomas Blunt	1672	Missing
1643	Robert Browne	1673	Missing
1644	Thomas Bursnall or Bursuall	1674	Missing
1645	Alexander Baker	1675	John Goodall
1646	George Martin	1676	Missing
1647	John Somerfeild	1677	Missing
1648	William Speechley	1678	John Roberts
1649	Robert Browne	1679	William Hubbins
1650	Alexander Baker	1680	George Bent
1651	George Martin	1681	William Elliott
1652	Edmund Johnson	1682	James Lee
1653	John Birkhead	1683	Francis Ward
1654	Samuel Wanley	1684	William Bentley
1655	John Clay	1685	George Steeres
1656	Daniell Deken		Godfrey Barrodale
1657	Thomas Henshaw	1686	John Hardy
	Anthony Courtis		George Croftes
1658	William Franke	1687	Thomas Ward
	William Callis		Robert Hobson
1659	Robert Erickie	1688	Thomas Simpson
	George Abney		Joseph Roberts
1660-84	William Maior		Thomas Palmer elected Bayliff in place of William Maior who refused to serve.
1660	Anthony Gilbert		
1661	Richard Palmer		

MAYORS.

1602-3	James Ellice	1613-14	Thomas Manbye
1603-4	Hugh Hunter	1614-15	John Bonnett
1604-5	Thomas Chettle [or Chettell]	1615-16	William Ive
1605-6	Robert Heyricke	1616-17	Thomas Erickie
1606-7	Lebbeus Chamberlin	1617-18	Roland Pewsey
1607-8	Thomas Chapman	1618-19	Nicholas Gilliot
1608-9	James Andrewe	1619-20	John Heyricke
1609-10	Thomas Parker	1620-21	John Pare
1610-11	John Mabbes	1621-22	James Andrewe
1611-12	John Freake	1622-23	John Hynde
1612-13	William Morton	1623-24	James Ellis

1624-25	William Ludlam	1658-59	{Samuell Wanley ¹ William Franke
1625-26	William Ive	1659-60	John Clay
1626-27	Gilbert Fawsit	1660-61	Dannet Abney
1627-28	Francis Churchman	1661-62	Francis Noble
1628-29	William Billers	1662-63	Daniell Deken
1629-30	Roger Coates	1663-64	{Thomas Blunt Richard Palmer
1630-31	Thomas Smith	1664-65	William Callis
1631-32	John Norrice	1665-66	William Alsop
1632-33	Nicholas Gilliot	1666-67	Edmund Townesend
1633-34	Hugh Watts	1667-68	William Southwell
1634-35	William Ive	1668-69	Thomas Overinge
1635-36	Ralph Tompson	1669-70	Andrew Freeman
1636-37	Richard Inge	1670-71	William Deane
1637-38	Daniel Murfyn	1671-72	Alexander Baker
1638-39	John Hinde	1672-73	John Clay
1639-40	John Norrice	1673-74	Robert Hartshorne
1640-41	William Stanley	1674-75	Francis Noble
1641-42	Thomas Rudiard	1675-76	George Beckett
1642-43	Richard Ludlam	1676-77	Edmund Sutton
1643-44	William Ward	1677-78	William Alsop
1644-45	William Billers	1678-79	Philip Abney
1645-46	Edmund Cradocke	1679-80	John Roberts
1646-47	Dannet Abney	1680-81	John Goodall
1647-48	Thomas Blunt	1681-82	George Bent
1648-49	William Stanley	1682-83	William Southall
1649-50	William Speechley	1683-84	Andrewe Freeman
1650-51	John Somerfield	1684-85	Thomas Ludlam
1651-52	Alexander Baker	1685-86	Walter Hood
1652-53	William Billers	1686-87	Francis Ward
1653-54	Edmund Johnson	1687-88	Joseph Cradock
1654-55	Richard Ludlam	1688-89	William Bentley
1655-56	George Martin		
1656-57	Edward Billers		
1657-58	Edmund Cradocke		

ELECTION OF BURGESSES TO PARLIAMENT.

March 1, 1604	Sir Henry Beaumont	Jan. 16, 1624	Sir Humphrey Maye
	Sir William Skipwith		William Ive
Oct. 31, 1605	Sir William Heyricke (on death of Beau- mont)	May 3, 1625	{Sir Humphrey Maye Sir George Hast- ings
May 19, 1610	Sir Henry Rich (on death of Skipwith)	June 22, 1625	Thomas Jermyn (Sir H. Maye elects to sit for Lancaster)
April 2, 1614	Sir Henry Rich		
	Sir Francis Leigh		
Jan. 8, 1621	Sir Richard Morison	Jan. 13, 1626	Sir Humphrey Maye
	Sir William Heyricke		

¹ Samuel Wanley died Nov. 18, 1658.

Jan.	13, 1626	Sir George Hastings	Jan.	3, 1659	William Stanley
Feb.	1628	Sir John Stanhope [Sir Humphrey Maye]	April	13, 1660	John Gray
March 27, 1640		Roger Smythe (re- fused after election to take oath as free- man)		1661	Thomas Armeston John Grey, Sir W ^m Hartopp { Sir John Pretyman (DoublereturnHouse decided for Sir John Pretyman)
		Symon Every		1676	Sir John Grey
Oct.	23, 1640 or 1641	Thomas Cooke Thomas Lord Grey	[1	1678	{ Sir John Grey Sir Henry Beau- mont
Nov.	17, 1645	Thomas Cooke Thomas Lord Grey Peter Temple (in place of Cooke who was expelled from the House)		1679	Sir John Grey Sir Henry Beaumont
July	12, 1654	Sir Arthur Hesilrigge W ^m Stanley		1681	Sir John Grey Sir Henry Beaumont
Aug.	20, 1656	Sir Arthur Hesilrigge W ^m Stanley		1685	Sir Henry Beaumont Thomas Babington
Jan.	3, 1659	Sir Arthur Hesilrigge		1688	Laurence Carter Thomas Babington]

CHAMBERLAINS².

1603- 4	Robert Crosbye William Ludlam	1614-15	Thomas Winbey Richard Becke
1604- 5	Nicholas Gilliott William Ive	1615-16	Thomas Smyth Roger Cotes
1605- 6	Edward Wandley Henry Pallmer	1616-17	John Mitchell Robert Miller
1606- 7	Thomas Vickers Thomas Walker	1617-18	William Davie William Chamberlyn
1607- 8	John Hynde James Ellis	1618-19	John Tatam John Norrice senior
1608- 9	Robert Johnson John Blounte	1619-20	Thomas Mawson Thomas Gilbert
1609-10	William Thorpe Thomas Nurse	1620-21	Ralph Tompson Hugh Walters
1610-11	Gilbert Fawsit George Shuttlewood	1621-22	Julius Billers Richard Inge
1611-12	Francis Churchman Thomas Hunt	1622-23	John Willcockes Richard Chapman
1612-13	John Nurse William Billers	1623-24	Paul Abney Arthur Clarke
1613-14	Robert Erické Thomas Brookes	1624-25	John Brewerne Dannett Abney

¹ 1678-88. No record of the election in documents.² The first for the Community, the second for the Mayor

1625-26	John Norrice	1649-50	Thomas Pippen
	John Somerfeilde		Anthony Cooke
1626-27	William Speachley	1650-51	Anthony Curtice
	Thomas Blounte		William Warberton
1627-28	William Twigden	1651-52	James Foxe
	William Ward		Richard Sherwyn
1628-29	Richard Almond	1652-53	William Southwell
	William Stanley		John Turvile
1629-30	William Henshawe	1653-54	Alexander Cotes
	William Hunt		George Abney
1630-31	Thomas Newton	1654-55	Richard Coleman
	Robert Browne		James Ludlam
1631-32	Thomas Somerfeilde	1655-56	Jonathan Cooke
	Richard Ludlam		John Norrice
1632-33	Thomas Bursnall	1656-57	Stephen Lyncolne
	Alexander Baker		William Stanley
1633-34	Thomas Neale	1657-58	William Alsopp
	Robert Burstall		Edmund Townesend
1634-35	Bartholomew Chapman	1658-59	Roger Atton
	George Martyn		William Southwell
1635-36	John Fowlyer	1659-60	Robert Buxton
	John Berkhead		Samuell Wanley
1636-37	Robert Winfeld	1660-61	Edward Plummer
	William Billers		Robert Hartshorne
1637-38	William Turvile	1661-62	Phillipp Abney
	Alexander Inge		William Deane
1638-39	Henry Peale	1662-63	John Kestian
	Edmund Craddock		George Bent
1639-40	Henry Freer	1663-64	William Newton
	Richard Barnes		James Abney
1640-41	Nathaniell Churchman	1664-65	William Chapman
	Edward Billers		George Beckett
1641-42	Daniel Deken	1665-66	John Hall
	Samuel Wanley		John Goodall
1642-43	John Cleay	1666-67	William Elliott
	Roberte Blunt		James Lee
1643-44	Thomas Stringer	1667-68	Thomas Bellamy
	Phillipp Mann		Jonathan Wanley
1644-45	Robert Erick	1668-69	Richard Ward
	Thomas Henshaw		Francis Ward
1645-46	John Hynde	1669-70	Richard Legitt
	William Francke		William Bentley
1646-47	Thomas Somerfield	1670-71	William Holmes
	John Clarke		Edward Pollard
1647-48	Robert Cotes	1671-72	John Norrice
	Richard Pallmer		Walter Hood
1648-49	William Cooke	1672-73	John Bent
	Francis Noble		John Mabbs

1673-74	Edward Wood	1681-82	William Springthorpe
	John Wilkins		Henry Pate
1674-75	Edward Malson	1682-83	David Clay
	John Brooksbys		Edmund Cradock
1675-76	Thomas Ludlam	1683-84	Thomas Ward
	Joseph Cradock		John Cracraft
1676-77	Samuell Martin	1684-85	Thomas Drake } Bayliffs
	Edmund Johnson		John Abney }
1677-78	William Stretton	1685-86	George Steers } Bayliffs
	Thomas Palmer		Godfred Barodale }
1678-79	John Mason	1686-87	John Hardy } Bayliffs
	Gabriell Hill		George Crofts }
1679-80	John Jesson	1687-88	Thomas Ward } Chamber-
	John Pares		Robert Hobson } lains
1680-81	Thomas Thompson	1688-89	Thomas Simpson } Cham-
	John Dann		Joseph Roberts } berlains

CORONERS.

1603- 4	Thomas Warde	1631-32	Missing
	John Bonnett	1632-33	Thomas Gilbert
1604- 5	James Andrewe		Ralph Tompson
1605- 6	John Woodford	1633-34	Paul Abney
1606- 7	Robert Pilkington	1634-35	Julius Billers
1607- 8	Thomas Parker		Richard Chapman (elected on death of Billers)
1608- 9	Hugh Marshall	1635-36	Daniell Murfin
1609-10	Robert Atton	1636-37	John Norrice junior
	William Ive	1637-38	William Stanley
1610-11	Thomas Erické	1638-39	Dannet Abney
1611-12	John Heyricke	1639-40	John Somerfeilde
1612-13	Nicholas Gilliott	1640-41	William Speechley
1613-14	John Pare	1641-42	Thomas Blunt
1614-15	William Ludlam	1642-43	William Ward
1615-16	John Hynde	1643-44	Robert Browne
1616-17	Henry Palmer		Thomas Bursnall
1617-18	William Vickers	1644-45	Alexander Baker
1618-19	William Hunt	1645-46	George Martin
1619-20	James Ellis	1646-47	Edmund Johnson
1620-21	John Blounte	1647-48	John Fowlyer
1621-22	John Nurse	1648-49	John Birkhead
1622-23	Gilbert Fawsit	1649-50	Richard Barnes
1623-24	Francis Churchman	1650-51	Samuell Wanley
1624-25	William Billers	1651-52	John Clay
1625-26	Roger Cotes	1652-53	Thomas Henshaw
1626-27	Thomas Smith	1653-54	Daniel Deaken
1627-28	John Norrice	1654-55	Edward Billers
1628-29	Robert Miller	1655-56	Thomas Stringer
1629-30	William Davie	1656-57	William Francke
1630-31	Hugh Watts		

1656-57	Francis Noble	1675-76	John Roberts
1657-58	Anthony Cooke		William Bentley
1658-59	Robert Ericke	1676-77	Missing
	Anthony Gilbert	1677-78	Missing
1659-60	Richard Palmer	1678-79	George Bent
1660-61	James Foxe		William Elliot
1661-62	John Turvile	1679-80	James Lee
1662-63	Edmund Townesend		William Holmes
	John Norrice	1680-81	Walter Hood
1663-64	William Callis		John Bent
1664-65	Francis Colman	1681-82	Edward Wood
	William Alsop		John Wilkins
1665-66	William Southwell	1682-83	Edward Malson
	Robert Hartshorne		John Brookesby
1666-67	Thomas Overing	1683-84	Thomas Ludlam
	Andrew Freeman		Joseph Cradock
1667-68	Edmund Sutton	1684-85	Francis Ward
	John Roberts		Walter Hood
1668-69	John Clarke	1685-86	John Wilkins
	William Stubbins		Thomas Palmer
1669-70	Henry Coulson	1686-87	Gabriel Hill
	Phillip Abney		Edmund Cradock
1670-71	George Bent	1687-88	Samuel Robinson
	William Newton		Samuel Woodland
1671-72	George Beckett	1688-89	William Orton } Hall
	John Goodall		Tobias Marshall } Book
1672-73	Missing		John Bent } Hall Papers
1673-74	Missing		John Wilkins }
1674-75	Missing		

[The coroners as a rule held office for two years in such a way that each year there was a new and an old coroner. In the above list the new coroner's name is printed. The names given in the Hall Book and Hall Papers respectively do not correspond for the year 1688.]

STEWARDS OF THE FAIR.

1603-4	William Morton	1607- 8	Robert Heyricke
	John Woodforde		William Morton
	Robert Pilkington		John Freake and John Wilne
1604-5	James Ellis	1608- 9	Lebeus Chamberlyn
	William Stanley		John Bonnett
	Thomas Parker		John Woodford
1605-6	Hugh Hunter	1609-10	James Andrewe
	Hugh Marshall		Robert Atton
	Robert Atton		William Ive
1606-7	William Norice	1610-11	James Andrewe
	John Mabbes		Thomas Ericke
	Thomas Manbye		John Heyricke

1611-12	Thomas Parker Nicholas Gilliot John Pare	1627-28	William Ive Ralph Thompson Paul Abney
1612-13	John Mabbes William Ludlam John Hynde	1628-29	Gilbert Fawsit Thomas Mawson Richard Inge
1613-14	John Freake John Wyllne John Bonnett	1629-30	Missing
1614-15	William Morton Robert Atton William Ive	1630-31	William Billers Daniel Murfin Arthur Clarke
1615-16	Thomas Manbey Thomas Ericke John Heyricke	1631-32	Missing
1616-17	Thomas Manbey Nicholas Gillott John Pare	1632-33	Thomas Smith William Twickten
1617-18	William Ive William Ludlam John Hynde	1633-34	John Norrice Dannet Abney John Somerfeilde
1618-19	Thomas Ericke Henry Pallmer William Vickers	1634-35	Missing
1619-20	Roland Pewsey William Hunt James Ellis	1635-36	Hugh Watts Thomas Blunt William Ward
1620-21	Nicholas Gillott John Blounte John Nurse	1636-37	William Ive Robert Browne
1621-22	John Heyricke Gilbert Fawsit Francis Churchman	1637-38	Thomas Somerfeilde Ralph Tompson Richard Ludlam
1622-23	John Pare William Billers Thomas Brookes	1638-39	Thomas Rudyard Richard Inge
1623-24	James Andrewe Roger Cotes Richard Becke	1639-40	Thomas Burstall Alexander Baker
1624-25	John Hynde Thomas Smyth John Norrice senior	1640-41	Danniell Murfin William Davie William Billers junior
1625-26	James Ellis Robert Miller William Davie	1641-42	John Hynde Dannet Abney George Martin
1626-27	William Ludlam Hugh Watts Thomas Gilbert	1642-43	John Norrice John Somerfeilde Edmund Cradock
		1643-44	Edmund Johnson William Stanley
		1644-45	William Speechley Edmund Johnson
		1645-46	Thomas Rudiard John Brewerne John Fowlyer
			Richard Ludlam
			Dannett Abney
			John Birkhead
			William Ward

1645-46	John Somerfeilde Richard Barnes	1661-62	Edmund Townesend Richard Coleman
1646-47	William Billers William Speechley	1662-63	Dannett Abney Francys Coulman
	Edward Billers		William Alsop
1647-48	Edmund Cradock Robert Browne	1663-64	Missing
	Samuel Wanley	1664-65	Daniel Deaken Thomas Overing
1648-49	Dannett Abney Alexander Baker	1665-66	Andrew Freeman Richard Palmer
	John Clay		Edmund Sutton
1649-50	Thomas Blunt John Somerfield	1666-67	John Roberts William Callis
	George Martin		John Clark
1650-51	William Stanley Robert Browne	1667-68	William Stubbins William Alsopp
	Edmund Johnson		Henry Coulson
1651-52	William Speechley John Birkhead	1668-69	Stephen Lincoln Edmund Townesend
	Daniel Deaken		Phillipp Abney
1652-53	John Somerfield Edward Billers	1669-70	William Deane William Southwell
	Thomas Henshaw		George Bent
1653-54	Alexander Baker Thomas Stringer	1670-71	William Newton Thomas Overing
	William Francke		George Beckett
1654-55	William Billers Francis Noble	1671-72	John Hall Andrew Freeman
	Anthony Cooke		John Goodall
1655-56	Edmund Johnson John Birkhead	1672-73	William Elliott
	Robert Ericke	1673-74	} Missing
1656-57	Richard Ludlam Anthony Gilbert	1674-75	1675-76
	Richard Palmer		Robert Hartshorne William Stubbins
1657-58	Richard Ludlam James Fox		John Norrice
	John Turvill	1676-77	} Missing
1658-59	Edward Billers William Warburton	1677-78	1678-79
	Nicholas Sherwin		Edmund Sutton
1659-60	Edmund Cradock Alexander Cotes		John Norris
	James Ludlam		Walter Hood
1660-61	William Franke Anthony Courtis	1679-80	Philip Abney
	William Callis		John Bent
1661-62	John Clay	1680-81	Edward Wood
			John Roberts
			John Wilkins
			Edward Malson
		1681-82	John Goodall

1681-82	John Brookesby	1686-87	Walter Hood
	Thomas Ludlam		Thomas Palmer
1682-83	George Bent		Samuel Robinson
	William Elliot	1687-88	Francis Ward
	Joseph Cradock		John Pares
1683-84	William Southwell		John Dan
	Missing	1688-89	Joseph Cradock
1684-85	Andrew Freeman		Robert Lord
	Missing		Phillip Abney
1685-86	Thomas Ludlam		
	Gabriel Hill		
	Edmund Cradock		

COMMON HALL, Nov. 23, 1660.

M ^r Dannett Abney Maior	*Edward Plummer } Robert Hartshorne } Cham.	*Thomas Davis John Kestian William Newton Alexander Cotes
*William Stanley		
*Richard Ludlam		
*Edmund Cradocke	*Richard Coleman	*Thomas Lawrence
*William Ward	Jonathan Cooke	*John Mabbs
Thomas Blunt	John Norrice	*Joseph Barrowdale
Alexander Baker	Stephen Lincolne	Edmund Sutton
*William Francke	Francis Coulman	William Chapman
John Clay	William Alsopp	John Hall
Daniell Deaken	*Roger Atton	James Abney
*Thomas Henshaw	William Southwell	*William Lewin
Francis Noble	*Robert Buxton	William Deane
*Robert Erick	*Samuell Wanley	William Elliott
*Anthony Gilbert	Phillip Abney	John Roberts
Richard Palmer	*Daniell Smith	John Clarke
*James Foxe	William Awger	*Samuell Robinson
*John Turvile	*William Brookes	*William Johnson
*William Warburton	*William Ward Jun.	Thomas Bellamy
*Nicholas Sherwin	*Francis Elliott	*John Stringer
*James Ludlam	*Samuell Marshall	*Richard Johnson
*Anthony Courtis	*Robert Spence	*Thomas Weightman
William Callis	*Thomas Sturges	*Michaell Pawley
*George Abney	Thomas Overinge	*Thomas Cartwright
Edmund Townsend	Andrew Freeman	
	*Robert Lowe	

[Corporation remodelled after Restoration. Those names marked * disappear, 40.]

COMMON HALL, Oct. 13, 1662.

M ^r Daniell Deken Maior	John Kestian}	Chamb.	*Henry Heywood
Dannett Abney	*George Bent }		*Henry Eaton
Thomas Blunt	Stephen Lincolne		*Robert Norton
Alexander Baker	William Newton		*Thomas Guill
John Clay	Phillipp Abney		*John Bent
Francys Noble	William Deane		*Edward Malson
Richard Palmer	William Chapman		*William Nutt
William Callis	John Hall		*Robert Turlington
Edmund Townsend	James Abney		*Robert Spencer
John Norrice	William Elliott		*Robert Langton
Francys Coulman	Thomas Bellamy		*Samuell Martin
William Alsopp	*John Huckle		*Daniell Deken jun.
William Suthwell	*James Lee		*William Robinson
Robert Hartshorne	*Richard Ward		*William Loseby
William Auger	*Richard Legitt		*William Stretton
Thomas Overing	*William Orton		*John Mason
Andrew Freeman	*William Holmes		*John Jesson
Alexander Cotes	*Georg Beckett		*Thomas Tompson
Edmund Sutton	*Richard Noone		*William Springthorpe
John Roberts	*John Goodall		*William Palmer
John Clarke	*John Norrice jun.		*Peter Ward
*Thomas Browne	*Richard Coop		*Thomas Ward
*William Stubings	*Edward Billing		*William Adcock
*Henry Coulson	*Edward Wood		*Richard Kirke

[Corporation remodelled after Restoration. Names marked * new since Nov. 1660, 41.]

INDEX

The following abbreviations are used :

B. = bailiff, C. = coroner, Ch. = Chamberlain, F. = member of the Forty-Eight,
M. = Mayor, R. = Recorder, Sh. = sheriff, T. = member of the Twenty-Four.

- Abbey, 37, 45, 57, 103, 132-3, 293, 317, 328, 475
 Abbey Gate, 187
 Abbey Gate Close, 131
 Abbey meadows, 595
 Abbot, Esther, burial, 550
 Abbott, Doctor, 98
 Abell, Anthony, 544
 Abhorrence, 559
 Abney: Daniel, 334; Dannet, 197, 250, 339, 345, (M.) 347, 355, 356, 377, 391, 419, (T.) 441, 473, 478-9, 491, (B.) 598, (M.) 599, (Ch.) 600, (C.) 602, 604, 605, 606, 607; Edmund, 9; George, (Ch.), 420, 561, (B.) 598, (Ch.) 600, 606; James, 490, 491, (Ch.) 601, 606, 607; John, bailiff, 562, 568, 586, 602; Katheryn, 54-5; Paul, 69, 145, 197, 198, 201-2, 213, 238, 244, 250, 260, (B.) 598, (Ch.) 600, (C.) 602, 605, 606; Philip, 421, 562, 587, 592, (M.) 599, (Ch.) 601, (C.) 603, 605, 606, 607; —, 201, 252, 256, 302, 335, 341, 343, 371, (T.) 382, 386, 388, 463, 468, 498, 508, 583
 Accounts: Chamberlains', *see* Chamberlains'
 Accounts; orders, 541; payments on account of Plague, *see under* Plague; payments to the Poor, *see* Charitable Gifts and Poor Relief
 Acham (Achame), —, 376, 390
 Act of Supremacy, *see under* Statutes
 Act of Uniformity, *see under* Statutes
 Acton, Robert, 38
 Acts of Parliament, *see* Statutes
 Adcock: James, 370; John, 455
 Adcocke, John, butcher, 8; William, 607
 Administration of Justice, 14
 Aeylston, 110
 Aids, 93, 97, 99, 140, 149, 192, 285
 Akeley Deanery, ministers of, 285
 Alcocke, George, 206
 Aldermen, *see* Twenty-four, the
 Ale and Beer: allowance to labourers, 334, 530; Assize of Beer, *see that title*; dispute respecting sale, 439; payments on account of, 20, 253, 406, 412, 413, 417-8, 446, 478, 511, 517, 534, 539, 544, 551, 555, 557, 559, 580, 588, 594; price, regulations, 103; for soldiers, 392, 398, 406, 472, 593; unauthorised sale, 340-1
 Alehouses, *see* Inns and Alehouses
 All Hallowes Parish Church, 340
 All Saints Church, 191, 540, 589
 All Saints Parish, 188, 260, 550; beadle, 273
 Allen (Allin, Allyn): Alexander, 254; John, 291, 296, 309; John, stationer, 252; John, of Sylebie, mercer, 56; Richard, 254, 255; Thomas, 254, 255
 Allerton, 183
 Allexton, 417, 595
 Allitt, widow, 345
 Allsoppe (Alsop): John, 583; Nicholas, 562; Thomas, sadler, 17, 29, 66, 153; William, warden of Company of Bakers, 383; William, 421, 465, 471, 522, 528, (M.) 599, (Ch.) 601, (C.) 603, 605, 606, 607
 Allyn, Allin, *see* Allen
 Almand, William, 102-3
 Almond, Richard, (Ch.) 601
 Almshouses, near East Gate, repair, 150
 Alnage, 475-7
 Alnager, 461, 462, 476, *see also* Stuart, Lodovick, Duke of Richmond; deputy, 457, 475
 Alsop, *see* Allsoppe
 Ammunition: gunpowder, match, etc., 58, 59, 60, 62, 71, 163, 304, 307, 313, 314-15, 322, 323, 329, 405, 406, 472, 580, 595; magazine, 407, 462, 586
 Anderson, Lord, 22, 27, 128; Henry, 582
 Andrewe: James, 54, 66, 90, 94, 109, 112, 114, 128, 133, 136, 138, 140, 145, 149, 152, 171, 173, 219, 334; (M.) 598, (C.) 602, 603, 604; Moses, 261, 262, 377; —, 42, 123
 Andrewes, Bishop, on the Commandments, 390
 'Angel' inn, *see under* Inns and Alehouses
 Angell: Anne, widow, 538-9
 Angell, John, appointment as public preacher, petition for, 229; librarian, 289; salary, 230-1, 248, 249, 253; references, 270, 275-6, 285, 289, 292, 307, 311, 324, 343, 357, 358, 392, 396, 405, 406, 426-7, 431, 538
 Angers, 291, 427
 Annabes, Richard, 17, 54, 97, 145
 Anne of Denmark, Queen of James I, 2, 4, 5, 11, 57
 Anne, Princess, daughter of James II, 594
 Annestye, 222

- Annis: Francis, 588; James, 489
 Anskell, William, 296
 Antell, John, mercer, 391
 Antelopp Bridge, 377, 378
 Apes Clogs, chains for, 151
 Apothecaries, 520-1
 Apparitor, 469
 Applegate Street, 28
 Apprentices, 117, 186, 188-9, 257, 361,
 430, 443
 Apprenticeship, 309-10, 385, 521
 Archdeaconry, notary and register, *see*
 Presgrave, Francis
 Archer, —, 426-7
 Archers Close, 69
 Archers Land, 42, 45, 48-9, 50-1, 52, 54,
 58, 67, 69, 209
 Arlington, Earl of, *see* Bennet, Henry
 Arms and Equipment: armorer, Lough-
 borough, 304; artillery, 398; armoury,
 324, 487; old armour, 157; particulars,
 11, 72, 73, 107, 163, 226-7, 277, 298,
 313, 322, 363, 456, 462, 472, 478, 489,
 504, 540, 549
 Armstrong, Thomas, M.P., 462, 463, 600
 Army, King's: at Banbury, 329; chief
 commander, 343
 Army: ammunition, *see that title*; arms,
 see Arms and Equipment; burial of
 soldiers, 580; defence and fortification
 of town, 334, 336, 343, 349-50, 353,
 363, 370-1, 378, 386, 430; deserters, 237,
 239; disbanding, 407, 477, 536; discharge
 from, 477; divisions of, 392, 440, 582,
 588; dragoons, 323; drummers and trum-
 petters, 298, 304, 406, 504, 511, 513, 549;
 enlistment for the Low Countries, 212,
 214; equipment, *see* Arms and Equip-
 ment; gifts to soldiers, 32; guards and
 sentries, 334, 341, 343, 344, 393, 382, 398,
 see also watch; guiding, 363, 588; gun-
 ners for the North, 393; for Ireland, *see*
 under Ireland; loans for, 532, 534;
 maimed soldiers, gifts, etc., 303, 304, 343,
 363, 489; musters, 76, 300, 304, 331, 477,
 494; 553, 582; officers, 382, 392, 407,
 467, 473; pay and allowance, 71, 72,
 226-7, 291, 304, 334, 344, 392, 472,
 489, 541; pressing of, 71, 75, 222-4,
 226, 298, 304, 532, 534; quarters and
 provisions (billetting, etc.), 221, 299-300,
 303, 304, 313, 334, 348, 359, 363, 366,
 367-8, 376, 377, 382-3, 398, 440, 458-9,
 472; 534, 586, 591, 593, 594, 595; raising
 of local troops, 76, 277, 300, 312, 370-1,
 406, 440, 540, 582, 590, 595; review, 98,
 304; taxes for, *see under* Taxation; train-
 ed bands, 151, 312, 313, 334, 335, 336,
 470, 489, 494, 511, 541, 558, 594, 595
 Armytage House, *see* Hermitage
 Arnold, John, 223
 Array, Commission of, 300, 323
 Arrows, at audit, 14, 328, 478, 483
 Artisans, country, 45
 Arundel, Earl of, *see* Howard
 Ash poles, theft of, 170
 Ashburnham, John, Treasurer at War, 337
 Ashby: George, 220; Josias, 456; Thomas,
 223
 Ashby-de-la-Zouch (Ashebie), 11, 38, 39,
 73, 74, 75, 108, 134-5, 169, 322, 329, 350,
 553
 Ashbytyste furlong, 255
 Ashebie, *see* Ashby-de-la-Zouch
 Ashebye fallow, 120
 Ashley, —, P.C., 486
 Assarby *alias* Asterby (Lincs.), 370
 Assaults, 124
 Assessment, *see under* Taxation
 Assize of beer and ale, 177, 188, 201, 499
 Assize of bread, 13, 129, 200, 291
 Assize of candles, 41
 Assizes of weights and measures, 47
 Assizes: dinners, 541; Great House rented
 for, 519, 525; Justices, *see that title*;
 references, 23, 26, 134, 119, 120, 370, 541
 Association, 590
 Asson, William, 408
 Astell, Edmund, 562
 Aston: Devorax, 109; Hugh, 597; Raphe,
 170; Robert, schoolmaster, 170; Sir
 Roger, 137-8; —, 29, 285, 363, 393,
 394, 398, 412, 417
 Atherton, 176
 Atkins: Thomas, beadle, 211, 226, 260;
 William, 562
 Atkinson, Captain, 371
 Atkyn: Margaret, 199; Thomas, 199
 Atton: John, 209; Robert, 24, 92, 145,
 152, (T.) 522, 603, 604; Roger, (Ch.)
 459, 601, (C.) 602, 606; —, 42, 47, 181
 Attorney, 43, 106
 Attorney General, 242, 487, 492; *see also*
 Coke, Sir Edward; Palmer, Sir Jeffery;
 and Yelverton, Sir Henry
 Auditors, 52, 56, 355, 302, 478
 Augmentation Lands, 328
 Augmentations, 402, 404, 478
 Aulneager, *see* Alnager
 Auster, 38
 Awger (Auger), William, 421, 606, 607
 Awman, Richard, 139
 Awsitor, John, carpenter, 8
 Axtell, Colonel, 466
 Aylsbury, Earl of, *see* Bruce
 Ayres, Thomas, 562
 Babington, Thomas, 220, 600; William,
 220; Major, 440
 Back Lanes, 432
 Bacon's *Elements of the Law*, 290
 Bacon, Mr, Master of Requests, 450
 Badger, —, 223
 Badgers, 196
 Bail, 25
 Bailiff: appointments, 106, 308, 568; as-
 sistant allowed, 408; chronological list,
 597; conditions of office etc., 83, 308,
 322, 408, 453, 561, 564, 566, 570, 572-3;
 deputy not allowed, 441; right of ap-

- pointment, 76, 77, 93, 106; under-, 106; *see also* List, 597
- Bailiff out of Corpus Christi Guild, 478
- Bailiwick and Stewardship, 17
- Bainbrigge, William, 219, 395
- Bakehouses, 13, 544
- Baker: Alexander, grocer, 268, 272; Alexander, 325, 356, (M.) 394, 397, 411, 414, 419, 426, 441, 443, 476, 496, 522, (B.) 598, (M.) 599, (Ch.) 601, (C.) 602, 604, 605, 606, 607; Dorothy, 195; Hughe, 31; John, 234; Mirander, 295; —, 284, 428, 460, 472
- Bakers: Company of, dispute with, 125–8, 129, 383; restriction of profit, 200–1
- Bale: John, 480; Sir John, 276; William, 528
- Balkes, 201–2
- Ball: George, 489; George, shoemaker, 391
- Banbury, King's army at, 329
- Bankruptcies, 454
- Bannister, —, 158–9
- Bannisters, Sir Robert, 217
- Banquets and Dinners: bequest for, 326; payments on account of, 10, 31, 73, 182, 227, 253, 287, 291, 346, 364, 406–7, 412, 418, 440, 471, 478, 483, 489, 494, 497, 518, 524, 555, 588–9, 593; *see also under* Grand Jury, Sessions, etc.
- Banthumley, *see* Bottomley
- Baptism, 383–6
- Barbican, 70, 132, 159
- Barbor, Gabriell, 175
- Bare garden, 132
- Barehill Cross, 99, 133, 156, 163, 219
- Barkbey, 253
- Barkbey Lane, 8
- Barley: for malt, 152, 153, 200, 206–7, 251; malting regulations, 253; price, 262–3; sale of, regulations, 74; tythe, 153
- Barlow: John, taylor, 17; William, Bishop of Lincoln, 115, 116–17
- Barnes: Richard, 295, 323, 356, 375, (Ch.) 601, (C.) 602, 605; Captain, 588; —, 223, 406
- Barns, 31, 213
- Barnsley, 28
- Barristers, common, 499
- Barrodale, Thomas, 445
- Barrowdale, Godfrey, 562, (B.) 598, 602; Joseph, 606
- Barse, Thomas, carrier, 403
- Bartholomew, —, 280
- Barton: Richard, expenses at Cambridge, 519; William, vicar of St Martin's, 436, 437–8, 464, 481, 482, 494, 530
- Bartröpe, Robert, 222
- Barwell, 369
- Bass, John, 594
- Basse, John, 329
- Bassett, —, 393
- Bate: Henry, 296; Margaret, 29
- Bathomley, *see* Bottomley
- Baugh, John, 292
- Bavington, Thomas, 194
- Bawdewyn (Bawdwyn) Lane, 68, 182
- Baxter, Edward, 292
- Baylie: John, plowright, 17; —, 61
- Baynibrigg, Henry, 482
- Beadehouse meadows, 24, 216, 234, 292, 302, 311
- Beadle of the Beggars, 211, 273, 278
- Beadles, 272, 525; *see also* Atkins, Thomas; Choise, William; Egerton, Ralph
- Beadles, 232
- Bearward, 226
- Beasts, *see* Cattle
- Beaumanoir, 505
- Beaumont (Beaumond): Sir Henry, Kt., M.P., 11, 32, 34, 45; Sir Henry, 557, 579, 581; John, 594; Sir Thomas, M.P., 15, 137, 185; Thomas, 385, 386, 395, 438; Colonel, 399; Lord, 227, 445
- Beaumont Leys, 527
- Becke: Richard, 54, 219, (C.) 600, 604; Richard, mercer, 97
- Beckett: George, 489, 543, 559, 562, 583, 584, 585, 587, 592, (M.) 599, (Ch.) 601, (C.) 603, 605, 607; William, 125
- Bedehouse meadowes, *see* Beadehouse
- Bedel, Bedle, *see* Beadle
- Beeby: George, 484, 489, 526; John, 308–9, 322, 342, (B.) 422, 441, 442, 597, 598; —, 408
- Beeke, Richard, (F.) 145
- Beggars and wanders, 246, 273, 278
- Begging: by children, 205; references, 272, 484, 485
- Bekers, William, 262
- Belgrave: Sir George, J.P., 15; John, 529; —, 10
- Belgrave, 111, 440
- Belgrave Gate, 8, 29, 31, 103, 114, 171, 334, 526, 527, 540, 583
- Bell, great, casting, 437
- Bell, Margaret, 29
- Bellamy, Thomas, (Ch.) 601, 606, 607; —, 193
- Bell-ringers, *see* Ringers
- Benevolences, 459–60, 479, 534
- Benington, Thomas, senior, gentleman, 442
- Bennet, Henry, Earl of Arlington, 511–12, 515, 535
- Bennett: Richard, gift to poor, 250, 385, 456, 478; —, drowned in flood, 539
- Benskin: Edward, 54, 59, 97; widow, 296
- Benson, —, 447
- Bent (Bent): George, (Ch.) 486, 562, 587, (B.) 598, (M.) 599, (Ch.) 601, (C.) 603, 605, 606; John, (T.) 587, (M.) 592, (Ch.) 601, (C.) 603, 605, 607; William, 37; —, Vicar of St Mary's, 322; —, of Enderyder, 449
- Bentley: Sir John, Kt., 194; William, 528, 587, (B.) 598, (M.) 599, (Ch.) 601, (C.) 603
- Bequests and gifts to town, etc., 78, 177, 189,

- 190, 309; *see also under* Tamworth,
Christopher
Bequests, Charitable, *see* Charitable Gifts
and Bequests
Berisford, Richard, 281
Berkhead, *see* Birkhead
Berkley, Jo., 515
Berkyend, Nicholas, 296
Berridge, 465
Berry, —, of Grantham, 426-7
Bertie, Robert, Earl of Lindsey, 525
Best, Franciscus, 66
Besweeke, Samuel, town gaoler, 63, 64
Beverley, 317
Bibles, 203, 455
Bigby (Lincs.), 197
Bigland, —, 536
Bikers, Ed.; 364
Bildsdon, 120
Biller (Billers): Benjamin, 370, 528; B.,
464; Edward, 356, 419, 441, 443; (M.)
446, 498, 505-7, 510, 550, 552-3, (M.)
599, (Ch.) 601, (C.) 602, 605; John,
311; Julius, Julye, (F.) 145, 197, 207,
250, 251, 405, (Ch.) 600, (C.) 602;
William, 54, (F.) 145, 171-2, 198, (M.)
208, 219, 243, 295, 345, 347, 355, 356,
375, 381, 391, 398, (M.) 411, (T.) 441,
(B.) 597, (M.) 599, (Ch.) 600, 601, (C.)
602, 604, 605; William, junior, 318, 323,
604; Captain, 412; —, 287, 368, 371
Billing, Edward, 604
Billings, Richard, 239
Billingworth, 217
Birch: Ann, 285; John, 285, 337
Birkhead (Berkhead): John, 324, 360, 390,
393, 432, (T.) 441, 454, 472, (B.) 598,
(Ch.) 601, (C.) 602, 604, 605; Joseph,
432; Richard, 272; —, 489
Biscuit, biscuit, 291, 378, 393, 407, 440,
541, 544
Bishop's Fee: assessments, 52-3, 96; calendar
of loose papers relating to, 13-18; disorderly conduct in, 305-6; fifteen, 120;
inhabitants not to be called before Clerk
of Market for County, 120; jurisdiction,
14-18, 18-19, 33-6, 44-5, 258-9, 261,
264, 265-6, 267, 439, 481; King's provi-
sion, 134; manor purchased by Earl of
Devon, 258-9; particulars relating to,
16, 17; soldiers not to be quartered in,
383
Bishops' war, 300
Blabye, 110
Black, John, 528
Blacksmith, 425
Blackwell, John, of Mortelack, 466
Blake Munday, 239
Blind boy, 188
Blisse, Jefferie, 345
Blithe (Notts.), 232
Blunt (Blount): Edward, 281; John, 37,
(F.) 66, (Ch.) 89, 90, 142-4, (F.) 145,
169, 197; Moncas, 441; Robert, 296,
333, 355, 356, 375, 379, 386, 391, 420,
(Ch.) 601; Thomas, 318, 325, 354, 357,
358, 363, 387, 388, 393, 405, (B.) 598,
(M.) 599, (Ch.) 601, (C.) 602, 604, 605,
606, 607; —, 195, 298, 323, 354, 368,
463, 534
Blythe, —, 257
Boat, return of, 435
Bodle, Thomas, 403
Boe Bridge, *see* Bow Bridge
Boes, Sir William, 32
Bohemian Minister, 275
Bohemian question, 195-6
Boley, William, 323
Bolton, Edward, High Sheriff of Warwick-
shire, 59, 62
Bolyvant (Bullyvant): Nicholas, Town
Clerk, 109, 203, 234, 243, 247, 254, 255,
263, 267, 277, 597; Sarah, 528
Bond, Josiah, vicar of St Mary's, 479, 525,
532-3, 539, 543-4
Boney, 4
Bonfires, 504, 584, 593
Bonnet: Elloner, 543; John, curate of St
Mary's, 263, 269, 273; John, 37, (T.) 66,
94, (T.) 145, 229, 230, (B.) 597, (M.)
599, (C.) 602, 603, 604; Samuell, 37;
—, 9, 42, 267
Bonshaw, Michael, 456
Boobye, Thom., 96
Boodman, —, 417
Bookbinding, 518
Books: chains and staples for, 549; gift, 353,
518; heretical, 397; for Library, 270-1,
534; news, 483; paper, 291, 446; pa-
pistical, 22, 23-4, 46, 552; purchase,
290-1, 518; seizure, 488, 489
Boone, —, 153
Boothby, Judith, 433
Borrowes, *see* Burroughs
Botcher, 358
Botcheston, 595
Botham, —, gift to poor of St Martin's
parish, 493
Bottomley (Bothemley, Bothamley, Ban-
thumley): Jacob, 397, 471, 534, 509-10;
Jacob, shoemaker, heretical book by,
386-7; William, 236; —, 310
Boughamore, Walter, 462
Boulard scholar, 415
Boule (for freedom), 239
Bow Bridge, 217, 513
Bowes, 32, 151
Bowling place, 205
Bows and bowstrings, 71, 72
Boyere, Willemus, (F.) 66
Boyer: George, 391, 529; —, 377, 593;
widow, suicide of, 510
Boysten, widow, 528
Bradbury, Anthony, 513
Bradford: Robert, harbinger, 348; William,
262
Bradgate, 21, 121, 135, 312
Bradgate House, 409
Bradley: Joseph, 329, 376, 397; widow,
393

- Bradshawe: Edward, 25, 27-8; Robert, 377, 412; Thomas, 261; Lord, 426-7
 Bragg, Jeffray, 223
 Branston, *see* Braunston
 Brass measures, 343
 Bratt [?], Nicholas, 223
 Braughton: Anne, 547; Robert, 547
 Braunston, Thomas, 223
 Braunston, 104, 168, 291
 Braunston Gate, 120, 207, 296, 586
 Braunston Gate Bridge, 151, 249, 311
 Bre, William, 296
 Bread: Assize of, 13, 129, 200, 291; dispute, 125-8; distribution, 204, 289, 376, 433; leather bag for weighing, 73; payments for, 253, 417, 530, 590; rye, 106, 126; weighing, 359
 Breakfast, 182
 Breeven, —, 345
 Brett, —, clerk of the presentations to the Lord Keeper, 269
 Brewen (Brewin, Brewyn): John, (F.) 145; Robert, Master of the Bridewell, 356, 386; Thomas, 248; William, 292, 356
 Brewer (Brewerne), John, 325, (Ch.) 600, 604
 Brewers: Assize on, recommended, 160; burne carts, 513; burnemen, 186, 484; common, 286-7; fatts and vessels to be new gaged, 454-5; hearth tax, 518; men and dishes, 406; measures to suppress brewing of strong ale and beer, 97, 140; missions to London respecting, 544, 546
 Brewin, Brewyn, *see* Brewen
 Bridall, John, 464
 Bridewell, *see* House of Correction
 Bridge, the Little, 305
 Bridge, stone, 130
 Bridges, repair, 107, 130, 151, 217, 235, 392, 432, 441, 513, 517, 525, 544, 580
 Bridgman, —, 531
 Bridgwater, Earl of, *see* Egerton, John
 Brigge, Willhelmus, 66
 Bright, William, of Scraftofte, 9
 Brinckhurst, widow, 30
 Bringhurst, 340
 Bristowe Act, 402
 Broadhurst, William, 529
 Brocklesby, 198
 Brocksby, Anthony, 125
 Brodies, Vincent, 363
 Broker, trade of, 492
 Brome, William, 448
 Bromley, Edward, 189
 Brooke, George, 52, (F.) 66
 Brookes: Edward, 440; George, ironmonger, 101, 102; James, 433; John, 494, 559; Ralph, 305; Richard, 162; Thomas, 54, (F.) 145, 197, (Ch.) 600, 604, 605; William, 421, 606
 Brookesbie, Roger, 392
 Brooks, William, of Allerton or Allexton, 183, 189
 Brooksby, John, (T.) 587, (Ch.) 602, (C.) 603, 606
 Broom, —, of Newark, 412
 Brotherhood money, 16
 Browne: Edward, 217, 235-6; Edward, gentleman, 442, 520; George, 530, 544; James, 257; John, 32, 64, 75, 293, 336, 391, 405, 494, 495, 530; Robert, Chapman, 17; Robert, 295, 301, (B.) 598, (Ch.) 601, (C.) 602, 604, 605; Samuel, apothecary, 520-1, 544; Thomas, 473, 497, 607; William, 536, 562, 582, 585; Lady, 32; Mrs, 239, 415; —, 239, 275, 472, 490, (T.) 530
 Bruce: James, 456; Richard, 485; Robert, Earl of Aylsbury, 525, 544
 Bruce, Lord, 258
 Brucke, —, mason, 513
 Bruntingthorpe, 392
 Buck, 32
 Buckden, 276
 Buckets, leather, 256
 Buckhounds, 210
 Buckingham, Duke of, *see* Villiers, George
 Buckston Lane, 31
 Buckstone, Thomas, 153-4, 155
 Budge, 431
 Bugge, John, shoemaker, 66, 97, (F.) 145
 Bull, 239
 Bull and Boare, 44, 542
 Bull House, 43, 55
 Bull Nooke, 542
 Bulloch, John, 194
 Bull Pen, 44
 Bullyvant, *see* Bolivant
 Buns, on Fair Day, 588
 Bunting, George, 199, 247
 Bunyan, John, licence to teach as a 'congregational person,' 531
 Burch, John, 280
 Burde, Reginald, clerk, 271-2
 Burdett, John, 562, 595; Sir Thomas, 220
 Buresbye, Robert, 257
 Burgalam, John, 164
 Burgeland, John, 208
 Burgeland South, 202
 Burgess Meadowe, 31, 68, 201, 370, 493, 494, 504, 517, 543, 592
 Burials, 186, 343, 550, 580
 Burley, 171
 Burne carts, *see under* Brewers
 Burnemen, *see under* Brewers
 Burrowbridge, 183
 Burrowes, Burrough: St John, headmaster of free school, 183; William, 455-6; —, preacher, 353, 441; Samuell, 528; Captain, harbirger, 348
 Bursall, Bursnall, *see* Bursuall
 Burstall, 324
 Burstall: Andrewe, smith, 17, 29; John, 57-8; Richard, 156; Robert, 292, (Ch.) 601; Thomas, 604
 Bursuall (Bursall), Thomas, 78, 254, 272, 325, (B.) 598, (Ch.) 601, (C.) 602
 Burton, Jane, widow, 290
 Burton: Cornelius, 420; ffrrancis, 345; Major William, 466

- Burton, 223
 Burton Lazars, 339, 340
 Burton Overy, 111, 406
 Bushby, 111, 354-5, 373-4, 376, 390
 Bushell, Captain, 387
 Butchers: country, freedom, 322; regulations, 41, 130-1, 496; restriction of profit, 200-1; Company, 213-4, 480
 Butler, James, Duke of Ormond, 494; —, 255, 370
 Butt Close, 8, 9, 195, 483
 Butter: assising, 109; leather bag for weighing, 359; loss on, 226
 Butts, in Butt Close, 172
 Buxton (Buxston): John (senior), (F.) 587; John, 540; Robert, 420, (Ch.) 459, 601, 606
 Byarley, John, 134
 Bye law, 584
 Byllinge, William, shoemaker, 17
 Cade: Antony, 231; —, of Billesden, 249
 Cadobies Land, 544
 Cadman, Thomas, joiner, 21
 Caesar, Julius, 6
 Cage, the, 99, 156
 Cakes, 253
 Calidis, —, widow, 248
 Callis: William, taylor, 17; William, 292, 296, (M.) 417, 491, 494, 522, (B.) 598, (M.) 599, (C.) 603, 605, 606, 607; —, 471, 483, 489, 518
Calvin's Institutions, 399
 Cambridge University, expenses of scholar at, 519
 Camden: Baptist Noel, Viscount, 525; John, 151; Thomas, 44, 164; William, Clarenceux King of Arms, 187
 Camfeld, —, 549
 Camlyn, 202
 Candishe: Sir Carrolls, 32; Lord, 139
 Candles: price, 103-4; supply, 58, 187, 343, 363, 398, 440, 590
 Candlesticks, brass, 549
 Candley, —, 298
 Cankewell by the Parrat, 494
 Canterbury, Archbishop of, *see* Laud, William; and Sheldon, Gilbert
 Capons, 69, 214
 Capture of Town by King's troops, *see under Civil War*
 Carbey, 515
 Cardigan, chief of family of, 535
 Carewe, Lord, 217
 Carey, Robert, Earl of Hunsdom, 588
 Carlisle, Bishop of, 249, 291
 Carlisle, Earl of, *see* Hay, James
 Carpet, dorinx, 353
 Carr, Robert, cordwayner, 350-1, 389, 417
 Carriage of goods, 217
 Carriages, 590, 594, 595
 Carriers, 222, 417, 496
 Cart, repairs, 12
 Cart-wheels, iron bound, rules, 184, 484
 Carter, Christopher, 217; Lawrence, 600
 Carters, 334
 Cartwright: Thomas, 397, 606; William, husbandman, 17
 Cassalty flesh, burning at Cornwall, 580
 Castle: 13-14, 47, 49, 67, 69, 70, 73, 95, 96, 112, 114, 120, 134, 139, 191, 328, 342, 352, 385
 Castle, plan showing position, 302
 Castle Bramage, 531
 Castle Malt Mill, 342-3
 Castle Mills, 37, 69, 70, 209, 250, 296, 302, 342-3, 430, 466, 467-8, 492, 530
 Castle Orchard, 430
 Cater: John, 20, 125; William, mercer, 17, 54; William, 547
 Catesbie (Catsbie): Robert, 38; Lady, 38
 Catlin: Edward, of Woodgate, 182; Edward, 169-70
 Cats, regulations on account of plague, 260
 Cattle: pasture on commons, 15, 542-3; fairs, 105, 135, 577; in Grange lands, restrictions, 214; rope to help any fallen into ditches, 555
 Causeways, repair of, *see* Repairs under Roads
 Cavaliers, 343
 Cave: Henry, Deputy Lieutenant, 98; Richard, 534; Robert, chandler, 391, 398; Sir Thomas, Deputy Lieutenant, 60, 62, 93, 98; Thomas, 229; Corporal 369
 Cavell, Edward, 23
 Cavendish: Charles, 264; Christina, Countess of Devon, 187, 252, 264-5, 267, 293, 305-6, 310, 331, 544; William, 1st Earl of Devonshire, 150, 162, 164; William, 2nd Earl of Devonshire, 258-9, 292-3; 3rd Earl of Devonshire, 442; William, Marquis of Newcastle, 298, 513; Lady, 162
 Cecil, William, Earl of Salisbury, 265, 305
 Chaderton, William, Bishop of Lincoln, 4
 Chaffe Lane, 544
 Challinor, Sir Thomas, 116
 Chamberlains: allowance rescinded, 523; excessive sums expended by, 556; fines for refusing office, 97, 107, 272, 303, 311, 404, 417; list, 600; office abolished and two bailiffs to undertake duties, 561, 564, 566, 576; unusual disbursement, 314; *see also under names*
 Chamberlains' Accounts: audit, 525; details, 8, 28-32, 51-2, 54-8, 65, 67-74, 78-9, 96-9, 107-9, 119-20, 131-4, 139-40, 146, 149-52, 156-7, 161-4, 171-2, 182-3, 189-91, 194-5, 203, 207, 217-18, 226-7, 234-5, 239, 247-9, 252-3, 261-2, 267-8, 275-6, 280-1, 284, 290-1, 292-3, 296, 298, 303-5, 310-11, 322-4, 328-30, 333-5, 342-4, 352-4, 361-4, 375-8, 390-3, 397-9, 404-7, 411-13, 417-18, 425, 431-2, 439-41, 455-6, 462, 471-3, 478-9, 483, 488-9, 493-5, 504-5, 510-11, 513, 517-18, 523, 525, 530, 534, 542 (missing), 543-4,

- 546, 547, 549, 551-2, 555, 557, 557-8, 559, 580, 584-5, 586, 588, 592-5
 Chamberlain (Chamberlin), Dorothy, 376; Edward, 342; John, of Knighton, 54; Lebbeus, Lybus, libeus, (T.) 37, 50, 59, (M.) 61, 63-4, 66, 72, (B.) 597, (M.) 598, 603; William, the younger, baker, executors, 28; William, (F.) 145, 198, 219, (Ch.) 600; —, 6; Widow, brewer, 408
 Chancellor of the Duchy, *see under* Lancaster, Duchy of
 Chancellor of Scotland, payment to, 46
 Chancery, High court of, 338
 Chandler, 104
 Chandlers' shops, leases, 97
 Channel or gutter, cleansing order, 367
 Chaplain to Sir Wm. Fairfax, 334
 Chaplains, King's, *see* Jefferye, Richard
 Chapman: Bartholomew, (Ch.) 601; Richard, (F.) 145, (B.) 598, (Ch.) 600, (C.) 602; Thomas, (M.) 8, 56, 57, (T.) 66, 75, 90, 405, 473, 596, (M.) 598; Thomas, Recorder, 213, 218-9, 244, 250, 269, 299, 308, 317, 393, 597; William, (Ch.) 601, 606, 607; —, 27, 31, 56, 398
 Chapmandry, 135, 348
 Chapman's Guild, 131
 Chappell, the, 68
 Chard: Edward, 482; alderman, 488
 Charitable gifts and bequests, 162, 186, 204, 205, 207, 208, 212-13, 217, 226, 247-8, 250, 252, 267, 289, 295, 310-11, 325, 329, 333, 334, 372, 373-4, 376, 385, 391, 397, 404, 405, 431, 441, 442, 455-6, 462, 478, 483, 493, 504, 517, 541, 551, 556, 557, 559, 595
 Charity money accounts, 288-9
 Charles I: arms and pictures to be taken down and defaced, 394-5, 397, 398, 405; coronation, 263; loan, 319, 323; orders for munitions, 313-14; petition to, 315-16; proclamation, 218-20, 227; subsidies, 225, 256; visits to Leicester, 20-1, 31, 316-17, 348; death, 465; references, 331, 353, 369, 490, 520
 Charles II: address to, 555, 558; coronation, 478; invitation to return, 463; petition to, regarding Popish plots, 554-5; presents and grants of money to, 314, 322, 323, 463, 467-8, 471, 473, 482-4; proclamation, 463, 464-5, 472; promise not to suspend penal laws, 532; illness and death, 579, 584, 585; references, 298, 369, 406, 511, 531, 553
 Charles Edward, Prince, 588, 593
 Charlton, Richard, 527
 Charnells, Thomas, 461
 Charnwell, Bedford, 497
 Charters, translation of text: of James I (1609), 79-80; of Charles II (1665), 499-503; of Charles II (1684), 564-79.
 Charters: calendar of loose papers relating to renewal, 13-18; chests for, 363; charterhouse, sorting writings in, 363; correspondence, 490-1, 561; country mercers, 456; of Elizabeth, 12, 13-18, 49, 258; fee to peruse, 139; objections to clauses, 258; reception of, 562, 584; renewals, expenses and arrangements in connection with, 13-18, 27, 33-6, 57, 77, 250, 257, 258, 284, 417, 467, 487, 490-2, 561, 585; seized during civil war, 343; surrender, 559, 560, 563; toll, 142-3
 Chase, —, 46
 Chatbytch, 59
 Cheney, —, 5-6
 Cherries, gift of, 119
 Chester, John, gentleman, 213
 Chesterfield, Earl of, *see* Stanhope, Philip
 Chests to lay charters in, 363
 Chettell (Chettle): Ann, suspected of being a witch, 398; George, 235; Ralph, 55, 70, 104; Thomas, (M.) 22, 23, 27, 33-36, 37, 39, 42, 45, 46, 51-2, 66, 79, 123, 131, (T.) 145, 146, (M.) 598; —, 4, 27, 207; Mrs. 27
 Chief Justice, *see* St John, Oliver
 Chief rents, *see* Chamberlains' Accounts *passim*
 Children: begging, 205; labour, *see under* Labour
 Children of Bristol, *see under* Players
 Chimney, easement of, 9
 Chippingdale, Dr John, 6, 15, 24-5, 27, 42, 44, 45, 54, 69, 103, 104-5, 111, 202, 203, 215-16, 219, 239
 Chippes, 34
 Choyse (Choise): Richarde, 170; William, 191, 211
 Choyte, —, 195
 Christenings, duties, 68, 543
 Christmas allowance to officers discontinued, 541; Christmas boxes, 541
 Churchgate, 527
 Churchman: Francis, 66, 130, (F.) 145, 204, 219, 231, 241, (B.) 597, (M.) 599, (Ch.) 600, (C.) 602, 604; Francis, (F.) 587; John, 164; Nathaniel, 390, 391, (Ch.) 601; —, 156, 207, 376, 397
 Churchwardens, 207
 Chute, Speaker Serjeant, 455
 Circuletter for the Parliament, Prince of Orange's, 594
 Civil War: admission of forces to town, protest against, 320-1; aid required by King north of Trent, 324; capture of Leicester by King's troops, 331, 339, 341, 343, 351, 358, 365, 371, 386, 388, 397, 411; Dunbar, 398; fight at Keynton, 329; King's army at Banbury, 329; Naseby, 449, 450; recapture of Leicester, 413, 418; Worcester, 406, 407, 412
 Clark, Clarke; Arthur, 204-5, 238, (Ch.) 600, 604; Bararie, widow, 296; Henry, 155; John, labourer, 46; John, 2, 27, (Ch.) 363, 404, 405, (Ch.) 601, (C.) 603, 605, 606; Lancelot, 223; Richard, tanner, 8, 31; Thomas, 29, 73, 183, 392; Thomas, shoemaker, 101, 102; Thomas, successor to Edmund Loe, 141; William, labourer,

- destitute of habitation, 269–70; William, 197, 257; Doctor, 182, 249, 291; —, 150, 227, 253, 520; Mrs, murder of, 25–6, 27, 28, 79
- Clay (Cley); David, 486, 562, (Ch.) 602; John, 360, 420, 441, 491, 527, (B.) 598, (M.) 599, (Ch.) 601, (C.) 602, 605, 606, 607; Jonathan, 528; —, (T.) 505; —, junior, 384
- Clay and gravel in Grange lands, 214
- Claypits, 202
- Cleave, —, 223
- Clerk of Assizes, 510
- Clerk of the Peace for County, 377
- Clerk of the Peace, *see* Town Clerk
- Clerk of the Watch, *see* Weldon, Thomas
- Clifford, George, Earl of Cumberland, 12
- Clifford, 515
- Clifton: Robert, 29; Sir William, 586
- Clipson, Edward, 238
- Clinton, Robert, 28
- Clock bell, ringing, 405
- Clock reels in stocking making, 537–8
- Clokes, 20
- Close, purchase, 187
- Closes: rents, etc., 29, 30, 68, 220, 225, 404; sale, 213
- Cloth: amount bought, 434–5; buying of cloth and making up into garments, 491; cloths, kerseys, frizes and stuffs, duty and question of retailer, 475; sale in open market, 448; Scots cloth, retail sale, 462; sealing, 475–6
- Clothes, old, opinion as to legality of sale, 492; proceedings of almagers, 457
- Clother to be set up by Corporation, 27
- Cloves, 489, 534
- Coachman, the Queen's, 280
- Coal: brought through forest, 168, 240–1; gift to town, 462; for the poor, 2, 198, 442; supply, 2, 215, 392, 398, 590, 593
- Coal house, 2
- Coal money, 459–60
- Coal pits, 168
- Coal scales, hook for, 472
- Coates (Cotes): Alexander, 292, 296, 433, 443, (Ch.) 601, 605, 606, 607; Charles, 370; Henry, 363; John, 155, 527, 595; Robert, 365, (Ch.) 601; Roger, 54, 71, (F.) 145, 198, 202, (M.) 219, 261, 262, (B.) 597, (M.) 599, (Ch.) 600, (C.) 602, 604; William, 220; Mrs, 497; —, 199, 256
- Cobblers, complaints of Cordwayners Company, 388–9 *see also* Shoemakers
- Cockle, William, 517, 534
- Cocks and hens rent, 69–70
- Coclide, Sheene, 276
- Coinage: clipt money and brass money, 432; farthings and halfpence, 457–8, 509
- Coke: Sir Edward, Attorney General, 34; —, 205; *see also* Cook
- Coker, Giles, 593
- Coleman: John, 448, 456, 462, 472, 495; Johnnathan, (T.) 587; Richard, 296, 420, 471, 605, 606; —, under usher of school, 375; —, apothecary, 544; —, 322, 379, 412, 520
- Cole Orton church, repair, 417
- Coles, Abell, 597
- College of the Blessed Virgin Mary, 47, 49, 55–6, 67, 69–70, 73, 113, 328, 333, 352, 362, 379, 543
- Collington, Lord, 265
- Collison, Lancelot, 257
- Colly, James, 4
- Collyns, Matthew, Mayor of Coventry, 41
- Coltman (Coulterman): Francis, 513, (B.) 598, (C.) 603, 605, 606, 607; John, 238; Mathew, 454, 456, 505, 544; William, 529
- Commissionaries court, 108, 239, 275
- Commissioners of Parliament, 353
- Commissioners for Regulating of Corporations, 479–80
- Commissioners, land, 238, 398
- Commissioners between Mr Wigley and the town, 412
- Commissioners: election, 512; meeting about Free Benevolence to Charles II, 479; payments, 46–7, 99
- Committee for County of Leicester, 382–3
- Committee for Reformation of the Universities, 402–4
- Committee for the Two Kingdoms, 330, 336–7
- Common Clerk, *see* Town Clerk
- Common Council, *see* Forty-eight, the
- Common Hall, lists of members, 606, 607
- Common Pleas, Chief Justice, *see* Hobart, Sir Henry
- Commons: for cattle, 15; infringement of privileges, 542–3; in South Fields, 214–15; in respect of Grange lands, 242; right of, for horses, 270; right of pasture, 275; near the Soar and West gate, rent, 31
- Communicants, number, 232
- Comnenus, Anastatius, Macedonian, 427, 440
- Compton, Lord, 60, 62
- Conduit pipes, 275, 525
- Conduit, wine in, 584
- Constable, James, a Yorkshireman, 268
- Constable of Scotland, 46
- Constables: black staves for, 133; Bishop's fee, payment in default of appearance, 134; charges, 541, 550; duties and orders 24, 47–8, 246, 399; King's colours given to, 472; pay, 341; report on ward, 498–9
- Constant, 120
- Contempt of the world, The*, 22
- Conventicles, charge of holding, 522–3, 557
- Cook, Lord, articles, 498–9
- Cooke, Lord, 157
- Cooke: Anthony, 441, (Ch.) 601, (C.) 603, 605; John, (F.) 587; Jonathan, 345, 356, 414, 420, (Ch.) 440, 459, (Ch.) 601, 606; Robert, 585; Thomas, (M.P.) 338, 466, 600; William, tied to cart and whipped,

- 134; William, fishmonger, permit to sell tobacco, 268; William, 267, 296, 420, (Ch.) 601; —, 316, 420, 441, 471; —, scholar, 384; Mr Secretary, 283; Mr Sergeant, 261, 265
 Cooks, orders to restrain excessive gain by, 200–1
 Coombe, —, 38
 Coop, Isaac, 308; Richard, 607
 Cooper: Edmund, surveyor, 279; John, 222, 223, 275; Samuel, glazier, 539
 Cooper, a, 472
 Cope, Sir Walter, Kt., 140
 Copp, —, heretical book by, 386–7
 Coral beads, 22
 Corbett, Edward, 223
 Cordwayners Company: complaints of trading by unlicensed persons, 350, 388–9; objections to admission of more curriers, 416; ordinall, 388; petitions, 461, 482, 515
 Corn: abundance in Leicester and Northampton, 396; engrossing, 196; grinding at Castle mills forbidden, 37; in lieu of toll, 142–4; for malt, complaints, 196–7; malting, regulations, 200, 253–4; masters, 254; payment, 48; provision for the poor, 198, 204, 207, 254, 411; winnowing, orders, 65, 104
 Corn Wall, 61, 72, 153, 305, 484, 489, 494, 580
 Coroners: appointment, 566–7, 569; list, 602
 Corporation: admission to office, 514–15; list of members, 587
 Corpus Christi College, President, *see* Spencer, John
 Corpus Christi Guild, 328, 362
 Cotcherman, —, 11
 Cotes, *see* Coates
 Cotesbridge, Cottisbitche, 64, 71
 Cottages, 498
 Cotton: Thomas, 2; William, 2, 28, 56, 68; —, 202
 Cotty, 25
 Couldwell, Robert, 217, 248, 261
 Couldwells, 239
 Coulson, Henry, 375, 513, (C.) 603, 605, 607
 Coultnam, *see* Coltman
 Countes-thorpe, 111, 362, 478
 Court Baron, 15, 19, 258, 264
 Court of Common Pleas, 17, 35, 211
 Court, Sir Henry Harrington's, 15, 16
 Court of Record: 17, 27, 49, 91, 120, 308, 408, 422, 443, 483, 572; attorney, 106, 508; terms of Charter, 81, 564, 571
 Court of Wards and Liveries, receiver, *see* Fleetwood, Sir Miles
 Courts, lease of perquisites, fines, and amercements, 82, 156, 163, 203, 234, 252, 400, 408, 412, 447–8, 458, 490, 520, 560
 Courts Leet, 13, 15, 19, 252, 264
 Courts Leet, lease of perquisites, 400, 408, 560
 Covenant, refusal to renounce, 498, 506
 Coventrie, Thomas, Lord, Lord Keeper, 265, 269
 Coventry: church, repair, 511; Mayor, *see* Collyns, Matthew
 Coventry, 38, 39, 41, 101, 187, 329, 334, 406, 411, 476, 515, 551
 Cow close, 366, 439
 Cow drift furlong, 182
 Cow hey, 44
 Cow ley, 8
 Cow pasture, 22, 24, 44, 209, 370; ditching in, 585
 Cowell, Henry, 237
 Cowper: Henry, 21; Thomas, 29; Widow, 30
 Cows, *see* Cattle
 Croxford, John, 562, 594, (Ch.) 602
 Cradock: Edward, 419; Edmund, mercer, 268; Edmund, 305, 390, 395, (T.) 441, 562, 587, (M.) 599, (Ch.) 601, 602, (C.) 603, 604, 605, 606; Joseph, (M.) 447, 544, 562, 587, 588, (M.) 599, (Ch.) 602, (C.) 603, 606; —, (Justice) 318, 322, 347, 356, 371, 381, 383, 384, 387, 392, 398, 428, 441, 586, 594
 Crane (Cranes): John, 21; —, 223
 Crayson, losses by fire, 417
 Creswell, John, town clerk, 587
 Crewe, Sir Randall, 194
 Crier, town, 518, 525; *see also* Newton, William
 Crier's bell, casting, 440
 Crime: murder, 25, 417; punishment, 12, 57, 134, 151, 170, 195, 261, 414, 426, 495; robbery, 580; suicide, 510; thefts, 153, 203; witchcraft
 Criminals, Bishop's Fee resort of, 259
 Cripples, orders to constable, 540
 Crofte, widow, 8
 Crofts (Croste): Bowett, (Bowell), 56, 108, 116; George, 562, (B.) 598, 602; John, labourer, 30
 Cromwell: Oliver, banquet to, 406; libel against, 415; northern expedition, 377; ordinances, 419, 426; proclamation, 441–2; question of taking off hat in presence of, 421–2; references, 375, 376, 393, 404, 412, 424–5, 531; Richard, 393, 448, 449, 451–2, 453; Lord, 57
 Crosby, Robert, (Ch.) 600
 Crosland, Richard, recusant, 23, 46
 Croson, 139
 Crosse: James, 292; Thomas, 30
 Croste, *see* Crofte
 Crowe, Henry, 227, 237
 Crown lands, 379–80, 398, 405
 Crucifixes, 22, 232
 Crysoms, *see* Christenings
 Cuck stoole, 12, 57
 Culverwell, Samuel, clerk, 78
 Cumberland, Earl of, *see* Clifford, George
 Cundith, 245
 Curriers, 416
 Curson, Richard, gentleman, 433

- Curtayne (Curteyn), Sir William, 204, 205, 207, 208, 217, 288
 Curtice (Curtis): Anthony, 325, 443, 464; (B.) 598, (Ch.) 601, 605, 606, (T.) George, 326, 368
 Cushions, Turkye work and feathers, 353
 Cutler: Margaret, 372; Thomas, 372
 Cutler, stranger, 157
 Cut-purses, 43, 78, 484
- Dacombe, Sir John, Kt, Chancellor of the Duchy, 162
 Dadland, George, 183
 Daintree: John, 556, 557; —, 329, 588
 Dalbie, 222
 Dale: Mayor, 588; Captain, 472; widow, 296
Dalton's Justice of the Peace, 291
 Dan (Dann): Henry, 562; John, 556, 562, 587, (Ch.) 602, 606
 Danby, Earl of, *see* Osborne
 Danet's land, sketch, 302
 Daniell: Edward, 163; John, 218
 Dannet: John, 226; Thomas, 360; —, 365, 375
 Dannets Hall, 31, 68, 217, 226, 305, 360, 375, 543
 Darbye, Thomas, 377
 Darfeilde, 159
 Darker, Hugh, butcher, 130-1
 Daunton, —, auditor, 355, 372
 Davenport: Isaac, 462; John, 354
 Davie: Edward, 254, 255; Jeffrye, 31; John, 408, 587, 594; John, Jerseycomber, 526; Thomas, 79, 126, 267; William, (F.) 66, (F.) 145, 204, 207, 219, 254, (B.) 597, (Ch.) 600, (C.) 602, 604
 Davis, Thomas, 606
 Dawes: Hugh, Serjeant at Mace, 417, 431, 438, 456, 460, 465, 472; Jane, 465; Samuel, taylor, 524; William, 405
 Dawson, Homfrey, 188
 Day of Thanksgiving, 473
 Daye, John, 292, 304, 368
 Deacon: —, 292, 377, 533; widow, 9
 Deakin (Deken, Deuken): David, 458, 529; Daniel, 354, 380, 409, 420, 433; (T.) 441, 443, (M.) 488, 491, 512, 522, 523, (B.) 508, (M.) 599, (Ch.) 601, (C.) 602, 605, 606, 607; Daniel, Jun. 607; —, 314, 318, 463, 468, 487, (T.) 505
 Dean: William, 425, 474, 481, (M.) 526-9, 562, 587, (M.) 599, (Ch.) 601, 605, 606, 607; —, 532, 540, 583
 Dearth, 113
 Debete, —, 33
 Debt, imprisonment for, 585
 Debts, Town's, 325
 Deighton, —, 490
 Dekeys, 36, 45
 Delinquents, 366; estates, 398
 Denmark, men pressed for service in, 134
 Denshire: John, 527; William, 254, 255
 Dent: Edward, 258; Leonard, husband-man, 17, 53; —, 356
- Depopulation, Petition, 396, 412, 414, 428, 434
 Depopulation and Inclosures, 428
 Deputy Lieutenants, 61, 63, 157, 298, 323, 534, 583, 585; *see also* Cave, Henry; Cave, Sir Thomas; Faunt, George; Har-topp, Sir William; Hastings, Henry; Lister, Richard; Orton, Richard; Turpin, Sir William
 Derby, Thomas, 494
 Derby, 213, 255-6
 Derby, Mayor, enquiry for letters sent to, 551
 Derby, Earl of, *see* Stanley
 Derrick, Samuel, 530
 Derry, Dean of, *see* Sutton
 Desborow, Colonel, 466
 Desburowe, Mr Receiver, 525
 Destitute children, 197-8, 514
 Dethick, William, clerk of the Peace, 27, 28, 41, 43, 49, 61, 63, 64, 75, 597
 Devereux, Robert, Earl of Essex, 298, 324
 Devon, Countess of, *see* Cavendish
 Devon, Earl of, *see* Cavendish
 Dexter, Anne, 528
 Diar, Lord, 128
 Dictionaries, 248
 Digbie: Sir Everard, 38; George, 337; James, 38; Symon, 38
 Dikes, Ralph, 296, 376
 Dillington, John, 525
 Dingley, 3, 21
 Dinners: Sessions, *see under* Sessions; Sizes, *see under* Assizes; *see also* Banquets
 Disafforestation, *see* Forest, inclosure
 Disfranchisement, 26
 Dishes: Banketting, 32; Drinking boule, and pot, 530; flondres frewe, 32; great pot, 73, 424, 549
 Ditches, 59, 60
 Ditching in Cow pasture, 585
 Dixe, W., 255-6
 Dixie: Sir Beaumont, 584; Sir Wolston, Kt, 93, 193, 194, 220; Younge, Vicar of St Margaret, 464, 468-9
 Dixley, 117
 Dixon, Jane, 118; Richard, 118; Robert, 192-3
 Dockitt money, 48
 Doctors, for Plague, 100
 Dod, John, of London, 473
 Doe, 562, 584
 Dogs, regulations in connection with Plague, 235, 260
 Doleman, Sir Thomas, 518
 Donnington, 6, 192, 300
 Dore, —, 414
 Dorney, John, 388
 Dovecote, 70
 Dove cote close, 245
 Doveland Lane, 207
 Downes, George, weaver, 150
 Drake, Thomas, 544, (B.) 562, 568, (B.) 602
 Drapers, case, 475-7, 491

- Drapery, 89, 481, 488
 Drapery Chamber, 358, 378
 Drapery house, 44; *see also* Shambles and Drapery
 Drayton, 340
 Dress and Livery: Beadle, 191; buskens or corkers, 490; gowns for Mayor and Justices, 416; Justices, 554; Mace bearer and Sergeant, 431, 438, 508; Mayor and Aldermen, 20, 207, 263, 274, 316, 414, 512, 513-14, 524, 554; for Royal Visit, 124; ruff bands, 124; scarlet gowns, 146, 263, 512, 513, 554; scarlet gowns and tippets, 274, 316; stuff for gown, 133; for swineherd, 291; waists, 484-5, 516; widows' gowns, 334
 Drinking bowl, 530
 Drowning, death by, 510, 539
 Drummers, 504
 Drums, 456, 478
 Drunkards, common, 499
 Drunkenness, 177
 Duchy, *see* Lancaster, Duchy of
 Duckworth, —, schoolmaster, salary, 432, 462
 Dudley: Joseph, (F.) 587; Richard, 462
 Dunchurch: "Sign of the Dun Cow," 531
 Dunchurch, 38
 Dungeon, lock and key for door, 139
 Dunghill regulations, 484
 Dunkirk, 38
 Dunn, Robert, 311
 Dupper, —, King's beer brewer, 97
 Durham: Archdeacon, *see* Morton, William; Bishop of, *see* Mathew, Tobias
 Durrant's land, 69
 Dutch war, 504, 510, 511, 513, 531, 536
 Dutchory Court, *see* Court under Lancaster, Duchy of, 147
 Duties, 68, 69, 360, 366, 543; *see also* Tithes
 Dutton, Robertus, (T.) 66
 Dyson: Henry, 548, 557; —, 458, 525
- Eagle, John, shovel maker, 469
 Earnest of bargain, 559
 Easement of chimney, 9
 Easome, John, 543
 East Gate, 8, 12, 74, 103, 114, 281, 313, 329, 398, 412
 East Goscott hundred, 553
 Easter book, 68, 543
 Easter duties, 67, 226, 360, 366
 Eaton, Henry, 607
 Edgerton, Raphe (Ralph), beadle, 32, 64
 Edmonds, Thomas, 82
 Edrington, Thomas, 547
 Education: grants towards maintenance of scholar at university, 530; text books, 399, 438
 Edward IV, 13
 Edward VI, 113
 Egerton, John, Earl of Bridgewater, 265
 Eggs, dearness of, 267
 Elizabeth, Princess, 11, 56, 70, 140, 149, 192
 Elizabeth, Queen, 1, 10, 17-19, 56, 67, 72, 113, 216, 269, 305-6, 381, 435, 500, 525, 536, 546
 Elkington: Richard, legacy to poor tradesmen, 70, 78; —, 361
 Ellesmere, Lord, Lord Chancellor, 89, 266
 Ellice, (Ellis, Ellys): James, (M.) 4, 6, 20, 25, 37, 39, 41, 42, 47, 50, 52, 57, 61, 64, 66, 92, (T.) 145, 152, (B.) 597, (M.) 598, (Ch.) 600, (C.) 602, 603, 604; James, 112, 114, 136, 138, (F.) 145, 169, 172, 198, 213, 219, 238, 353; —, 196, 217, 226, 248; —, solicitor, 426-7; Mistress; 267
 Elliman, John, 526
 Elliot: Francis, 296, 421, 458, 606; William, 458, 508, 529, (F.) 539, (B.) 598, (Ch.) 601, (C.) 603, 605, 606, 607
 Ellmysthorppe, 11
 Ellston waye, 182
 Elm tree in Saturday market, 72, 311
 Elson, 542
 Ely, Bishop of, sequestered estates, 339, 340
 Enclosures: Bushby, 354; Leicester Forest, 241-3, 244, 370; petitions, 414, 428-30; riots, 60, 62, 64, 70, 71-2, 75
 Enderby, 427, 518
 Engagement, the, 398, 400-1
 Engineer, *see under* Fire Engine
 Engrossing, orders for restraint of, 200
 Enser, Anne, spinster, 347
 Ensor, Thomas, 49, 73
 Equerries, Prince Henry's, Surveyor General, *see* Fleetwood, Sir William
 Erick, *see* Eyrick
 Erp, John, 530, 547
 Errol, Earl of, *see* Hay, Francis
 Erskine, Thomas, Earl of Kelly, 265
 Essex, Earl of, *see* Devereux, Robert
 Everard, —, 223
 Every, Simon, 600
 Evidence House, lock, 291
 Evington, 111
 Evington hole, 181
 Evington, —, bequest, 205, 208, 217, 288
 Ewer, Mrs., 376
 Exchange, Parliament money, 483
 Exchequer, Under Treasurer, 7
 Excise: Commissioners, 361, 454-5; farming disliked, 396; suit against David Clay, 486
 Executions, by burning, etc., 26
 Exercise dinner, 45, 46
 Exeter, Recorder, chosen Deputy Speaker, 455
 Eynsor, Thomas, 46-7.
 Eyrick (Erick): James, clerk, vicar of Thornton, 272; John, 139; Robert, (F.) 139, 145, 152, 155, 172, 173, 183, 271, 296, 356, (Ch.) 359, 365; (B.) 598, (Ch.) 600, 601, (C.) 603, 605, 606; Susannah, 528; Thomas, 54, 66, (T.) 145, (M.) 161, 168, 173, 177, 197, (M.) 598, (C.) 602, 603, 604; —, 197

- Fabyan, Master, saltpetreman, 156
 Fair days, 530, 559, 563, 588
 Fairfax: Thomas, Lord, 348, 349, 360, 363, 364, 367, 376, 377; Sir William, 334; Colonel, 406, 407; Lady, 364
 Fairs: declared free from toll, 74; horse fair, *see that title*; new, 134-5, 547, 560, 577; procedure and dress on fair days, 180, 254, 513-14, 588-9; removal to Saturday market, 105; sheep, *see under Sheep*; stalls, 582; stewards, chronological list, 603; *see also Markets*
 Falklands, Viscount, 265
 Fanderlas, Bartholomew Frederic, Doctor of physic and surgeon, 158-9
 Fane: Charles, Earl of Westmoreland, 535; John, schoolmaster, 8
 Fanshawe, Th., auditor of the Duchy, 43, 89, 218
 Farmers, allowance of 6d. a mile, 590
 Farmers, Southfields, 533, 542-3, 594
 Farnham, Captain, 558
 Farren, Thomas, 425, 489
 Farthing tokens, 154-5, 457
 Fasts, fast days, 203, 497
 Faunt: George, Sheriff, 459, 480, 532; Henry, 219; Sir William, 220; —, 470
 Fawker, Noah, 236
 Fawne, Edward, sadler, 17
 Fawsitt (Fawcett, Fausitt): Gilbert, sadler, (T.) 66, (Ch.) 120, 139, (F.) 145, 149, 219, 233, 238, 243, 262, (B.) 597, (M.) 599, (Ch.) 600, (C.) 602, 604; John, sadler, 415; Reginald, 53, (F.) 66, (F.) 145; Reynolde, sadler, 17; Stephen, sadler, 139; —, 256
 Faxon, 120
 Feasts, *see Banquets*
 Fee farm rents, 379-81, 526-9, 530; *see also Chamberlain's Accounts, passim*
 Feeldinge, Sir William, 57
 Fees, wages, etc., *see Chamberlain's Accounts, passim*
 Fellmongers: 13; of Montsorrel, 373
 Fellowes, John, 580
Felo-de-se, 408
 Felons' goods, 156, 408, 163
 Felton, Henry, 148-9
 Fencing, academy for, 525
 Fenner, —, the King's poet, 253
 Fermer: Alicia, 53; William, gentleman, 30
 Ferrers: Sir John, 38; —, 474
 Fetherston, —, 117
 Fewell, *see Fuel*
 ffollenbine: Henry, 583; Thomas, 583
 Fifteenths, 15, 109
 Filkes, John, gentlemen, 464
 Finch, —, 545-6
 Fines: of the Courts *see under Courts*; in default of appearance at meetings, etc. *see under Twenty-four and Forty-eight*; from farriers, 517; on false pretences, 155; paid in advance, interest, 592; part given to the poor, 252; *see also Chamberlain's Accounts, passim*
 Firebrand for marking weights and measures, 588
 Fire engine, 555-6, 558, 580
 Fire hearths, 544
 Fires: London, 511; losses and particulars, 303, 406, 417
 Fish, 494
 Fishmongers, 130
 Flampson, John, 106
 Flaske strings, 58
 Flasketts, 280
 Flavill, Edward, 221
 Flax: 86; wheels for spinning, 397
 Fleet, the, 127
 Fleetwood (Fleetwood, Flittwood, Flitwood): Francis, 115-16; Sir Miles, 242, 243, 279; Lord, 450, 457, 462; Sir William, 116
 Flesh, dressing and eating contrary to statute, 155
 Fletcher, 71
 Fletcher: Anthony, 30; Laurence, 206; Samuel, 75; Thomas, 30; William, 30
 Fletcher's land, 55
 Fleetwood, *see Fleetwood*
 Flitwood, *see Fleetwood*
 Flood, the great, 539
 Flude, Randolph, 433
 Flushing, Governor of, 12
 Foldyer, John, 292
 fone, Edward, 153
 Food, rate cease and tax all kinds of, 141
 Fool, habit of, 232
 Footman, 11
 Foot Post, *see Post*
 Forage, 86
 Forbearing of money, 56
 Forced Loan, *see under Taxation*
 Foreland (Furground), 254-5
 Foreigners and Strangers: act to prevent admission, 104; cattle in Grange meadows, restrictions, 215; eviction of, 157; freedom, 161, 201, 425; heavily taxed, 15; gift to, 268; from Holland sent back to London, 403; likely to be chargeable to parish, 94-5, 199; regulations, 101, 206; requested to depart early, 490; as tenants, 205; trade restrictions, 13, 15, 16, 377; undesirable, ejection, 77
 Forest: enclosure, 239-40, 241-3, 244, 302, 307; rents of closes in frith near, 55; right of way, 168; Town land, 242-3, 247, 248, 253, 279, 519; wood from, restrictions, 248
 Forest close, 10, 331, 377, 489
 Fortescue (Fortiscue): Sir Francis, 57; Sir John, Chancellor of the Duchy, 43-4, 109; Lady, 57
 Fortifications, *see Defence of the Town under Army*
 Forty-eight, the: bankrupts dismissed from, 454; dismissals, 4-5, 311, 522, 544; dress, 20, 274; fines in default of appearance, 20, 131, 139, 189, 558-9; lists, 66, 145,

- 568–9; to oversee watchmen, 288; payment for players, 51; petition for discharge, 545; powers according to charter, 80; procedure in elections, 50b, 554; reduced to thirty-six, 561, 566; refusal to serve, 458, 510; service as troop, etc., 503; taxation, 92, 107, 132, 145, 146, 149, 152, 156, 234; voting on toll agreement, list, 66
- Fosset, 406
- Foster: John, 495; Richard, mercer, 268, 527; William, 504
- Foston, 110
- Foursitt, *see* Fawsitt
- Four Yard land, 592, *see also* Archer's land, and Wightman's land
- Fowke, —, 46, 69, 77
- Fowks (Fowkes): William, gentleman, 54, 93, 94, 107, 108, 111–12; —, 45, 55, 56, 58, 99, 118
- Fowler (Fowlwyer): John, 339, 345, 365, (Ch.) 601, (C.) 602, 604; Wiakes (Wiatte, Wyatt), 37, 57, 66; William, 17, 30, 53, 99
- Fowlney, —, 361
- Fox: James, 268, 292, 347, 404, 409, 414, (T.) 441, 464, (Ch.) 601, (C.) 603, 605, 606; —, 420
- Foxe, Mr, vicar of St Maries, 580
- Foxon, James, citizen and currier of London, 416
- Framland Deanery, 285
- Frame for King's arms, 109
- France, war with, 511, 535
- Francke, William, 339, 355, 390, 392, 420, 427, 434, 441, (M.) 453, 460, 462, 464, (T.) 468, 526, 529, (B.) 598, (M.) 599, (Ch.) 601, (C.) 602, 605, 606
- Freake: Francis, 213; John, 66, (M.) 115, 118, 136, (T.) 145, 149, 152, 161, 213, 225–6, (B.) 597, (M.) 598, 603, 604; —, 42, 47, 52, 146, 220, 247, 252, 377, 393, 540
- Freedom: fine for strangers, 65, 469, 591; payments and petitions, 96, 131, 139, 201, 203, 208, 239, 311, 361, 371, 373, 424–5, 442–3, 477, 516, 524, 566; refusal to accept, 348, 485; women, 596
- Freehold, disputes, 202
- Freeholds, particulars to be ascertained, 93
- Freeman: Andrew, (M.) 522, 556, 562, 563, 587, (M.) 599, (C.) 603, 605, 606, 607; Henry, 42; John, 90, 210, (S.) 279, (A.) 530, 566; —, 202, 276, 583
- Freemen: declaration, 422; payments by, 290, 322, 405, 425; outside the town, 205–6; regulations and privileges, 95, 161, 208, 214–15, 337, 430; sworn, 338
- Freer, Henry, (Ch.) 601; William, 403
- Freer Lane, 377
- French Ambassador, 159, 217
- Fryth (Fryth), closes, 20, 24, 27, 108, 119, 149, 186, 216
- Frogmere Bridge, 78, 432, 441
- Frogmorton: Dorothy, 237; —, 257
- Frost, damage to West Bridge, 580
- Fryer Lane, 494, 527, 539
- Fryers, 539
- Fryth, *see* Frith
- Fuel, 253, 593
- Fukes, Richard, 495
- Furground, *see* Foreland
- Furniture: for Royal Visit, 11, 20, 32; at Town Hall, inventory, 486–7; vest of boxes to put writings in, 292
- Furze, 593
- Fylie, Lord of, Lord President of the Sessions in Scotland, 20
- Gaddesbye (Gadisbye), 8, 223
- Gainsborough, 57, 208, 393, 406, 412, 427, 452, 473, 513, 518, 534, 539, 544, 549, 584
- Gainsborough Chamber, 98, 219, 361, 391, 405
- Galloway Causeway, 517, 525
- Gallowtree feild, 181
- Gallowtree (Gattrye, Gaultry) Gate, 29, 31, 53, 103, 105, 133, 171, 362, 363, 478, 495, 540
- Gaultry, *see* Gallowtree
- Gamble, William, armourer, 304, 322, 323
- Games, unlawful, 402
- Gaming, 153–4
- Gaol: *see* House of Correction; county, 157, 585, 586; deliveries, 554, 574
- Gaolership sergeant's office, 146
- Gaoler, Stafford, 25
- Garden nooke or Jannie, 311
- Garland: Anne, accused of sorcery, 210; John, 472
- Garnham, John, whittawer, 199
- Garret, William, 390
- Garrisoning town, prevention of, 366
- Garthropp, 340, 345–6
- Gartrey hundred, 382–3
- Gate posts and reales, 280
- Gates, *see* Town Gates
- Gattrye Deanery, 286
- Gaultry, *see* Gallowtree
- Gawdie, Mr Justice, 128
- Gaynsborowe, *see* Gainsborough
- Gazett, 511, 541
- Geary, Dr, 561
- Gee: Marmion, 553; Sir William, Knight, 78
- Gelding, 73, 74
- General Post Office, London, 511, 512
- Gentleman Usher, 11, 133
- Gentlemen, county: at proclamation, list, 219–20; to return home, 162
- , George, 296
- Gibb (Gib), John, 147, 150, 164–7, 184–5, 215
- Gibbet, 59–60, 61, 62, 63, 71, 72
- Gifford, Benjamin, 347
- Gifts to the King, 314
- Gifts to the Poor, *see* Charitable Gifts and Bequests
- Gilbert: Anthony, 384, 414, (T.) 441, (B.) 598, (C.) 603, 605, 606; Fausin, 292;

- Thomas, 198, 219, 369, 441, 494, 504, 517, 551, (Ch.) 600, (C.) 602, 604; —, 464
 Gillett, 296
 Gillet, 196
 Gillott (Gilliott, Gylloot): Nicholas, 33–6, 46, 54, 89, 107, 108, 130, (T.) 145, (M.) 177, 188, 191–2, 213, 219, 231, 238, 248, 270, (B.) 597, (M.) 598, 599, (Ch.) 600, (C.) 602, 604; Richard, 60; Robert, 8, 37, 66, (T.) 145, 152, 273; Thomas, mercer, 97; Walter, 37; —, 42, 50, 52, 53, 61, 64, 198, 284
 Ginger, 489
 Gittins, Jone, 186
 Glass, 276, 552
 Glenfyld, 73
 Glenn, 303
 Glenparva, 111
 Glosey, Lord, 46
 Gloves, Mountsorrel, 373, 390
 Goadby: Thomas, 377; —, 462, 480
 Goddard, John, 594
 Gold: bowls, 276; piece of, loss of, 210; ring, 247, 248; wedge, 151; weights, 195
 Golden Snaffle, horse running for the, 139
 Goldsmiths Hall, 345–6
 Goodall: John, (Ch.) 508, 557, 562, (B.) 598, (M.) 599, (Ch.) 601, (C.) 603, 605, 607; —, 559
 Goodfell, 261
 Goodfellow, Thomas, 292, 295
 Goodlaxton Deanery, 285
 Goodlaxton hundred, 382–3
 Goodrich, Josuah, 588
 Goscot Deanery, 285
 Goslinge Close, 211, 215–16, 217, 437
 Goslinge croft, 211
 Grace, Walter, in gaol upon execution, 495
 Gracedeu, 32
 Gracedeu, Bartholomew, 335; William, 64, 108
 Graham, James, Earl of Montrose, 46
 Grand Jury, dinners, 541
 Grange, *see* Newark Grange
 Grange heath, in the west, 551
 Grantham, 323, 426
 Grants of Norbrooke, 38
 Grasdu, *see* Gracedeu
 Gratuity to King, list of sums, 145–6
 Graunge, William, 30
 Gravel, 132–3, 151
 Gray: Sir John, Kt., 10, 93; John, M.P., 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 472, 479, 483, 545
 [Graye], Edward, 325
 Grayes Inn, 212
 Great Earlesmeyres, 182
 Great Easton, 340, 345–6
 Great House, *see* Lord's Place
 Greaves, Richard, 285
 Grecian merchants, 132
 Green Cloth, officer of, 497
 Greene: Ambrose, scrivener, 17; Clement, 108; George, butcher, 28; Henry, constable, 47; Michael, 235; Robert, 17, 53, 199, 258–9, 368; —, 69, 406, 527
 Greenham's house, 527
 Gresmond, Henry, Duke of Lancaster, 74, 113
 Grey: Henry, Earl of Stamford, Lord Lieutenant, 21, 121, 129, 135, 170, 209, 218–20, 227, 244, 250, 267, 286–7, 311, 312, 313, 364, 456, 474–5, 525; James, 116; Sir John, 600; Job, 357, 358, 389, 460; Thomas, Lord, of Grooby, 307, 311, 320, 325, 334, 336, 346, 353, 370, 378, 393, 394, 397, 407, 412, 419–21, 456, 525, 593, 600; Colonel, 336; Squire, 399; William, of Wark, speaker of House of Peers, 332
 Griffeth, 364
 Griffin (Griffyn): Anne, 29; Richard, 281; Richard, carpenter, 525; Sir Thomas, 3
 Grime, Thomas, 257
 Grindell slade, 255
 Grinding, privilege claimed, 492
 Grooby, 170, 217
 Groom of the Chamber, 11
 Grooms, King's, 343
 Groce, George, 580
 Grocery, apothecary combines trade with, 520–1
 Ground close, 93
 Grumboule, Alice, burned for murder of Mrs Clarke, 26
 Guard, *see under* Army
 Guildford, C. S., 579
 Guildhall, 219, 523
 Guild of St Margaretts, 28, 31
 Guilds, 541
 Guill, Thomas, 607
 Gunpowder, *see under* Ammunition
 Gunpowder barrel, repair, 58
 Gunpowder Plot, 37–41
 Gunsmiths, 342
 Gunston's land, 544
 Gutters, 295, 367
 Guymnes, 593
 Gylmorten, 9
 Gyllott, *see* Gillott
 Hacker, Colonel Francis, 336, 406, 407, 419–20
 Halam, Henry, 189
 Hales, Richard, 426
 Halford, Henry, steward, 563, 572
 Hall: Roger, 11, 12, 73, 74
 Hall: Arthur, 302, 311; Christopher, feilde baker, 17; Edward, 137; John, cordwainer, 350–1; John, (Ch.) 508, 601, 605, 606; John, tyn man, 518; John, glazier, 539; Roger, 125; Sara, 210; William, glazier, 551–2; —, 4
 Hall: mayor's old, 120, 162, 523, 543; old, 12, 31, 188; *see also* Town Hall
 Hallydaye, Thomas, 29, 190
 Hambleton, Marquis, 190, 191
 Hamilton, James, Duke of Hamilton, 392

- Hampton: Thomas, physician, 17; Thomas, 53; —, 34
 Hampton Court, 498
 Hanshawe, John, 257
 Harbingers, 11, 348, 505
 Harborough, 28, 217, 343, 344, 393, 551, 552, 594
 Harding: John, 384–5, 393; Robert, (R.) 479, 487, 488, 491–2, 497, 523, 533, 545–6, 555, 561, 597
 Hardris, William, 528
 Hardy: John, 562, 587, (B.) 598, 602; Richard, 257; William, 526
 Hargrave, Henry, 587
 Harper, Sir Richard, Kt., 194
 Harrie, John, husbandman, 17
 Harriel, Bartholomew, 75
 Harrington: Sir Henry, 13, 14–16, 34–5; Roberte, 188; Lord, 37–8, 56; Lady, 34; —, 76
 Harris, William, chandler, 528, 587
 Harrison: Gyles, grover, 17; John, 544; Peter, 9; Thomas, 25; William, weaver, 206
 Harrye, William, 104, 146–7
 Hartopp, Sir William, M.P., Deputy Lieutenant, 479, 522, 532, 536, 534–5, 600
 Harts, Robert, 295
 Hartshorne: George, 197, 217; Thomas, 378; Robert, (Ch.) 519, 549, 556, 562, 583, (B.) 598, (M.) 599, (Ch.) 601, (C.) 603, 605, 606, 607; William, labourer, 17; —, 417, 513, 596; goodwife, 58
 Harvey: Francis, (R.) 91, 93, 134, 145, 146, 153, 160–1, 167, 174–5, 177–8, 211, 597; Simon, 210; Thomas, gentleman, 90; —, 76, 147–8, 362, 478
 Harwood, Henry, 308
 Hasilrigge: Sir Arthur, 307, 346, 353, 378, 379, 380, 400, 407, 419–20, (M.P.) 425, 433, 466, 600; Margaret, 132; Sir Thomas, Bart., 174, 220, 483; Thomas, 483, 493
 Haslewood, Elizabeth, 107
 Hasselwood, Nathaniell, 477
 Hastings: Lady Dorothy, 132; Sir Edward, 37, 107; Ferdinando, 6th Earl of Huntingdon, 234, 235, 244, 248, 263, 267, 276, 277, 278, 298, 299–300, 304, 353; Sir Francis, 27; George, 4th Earl of Huntingdon, 3, 5–6, 10, 11, 13, 16, 22, 23, 217; Sir George, 599, 600; Henry, 5th Earl of Huntingdon, correspondence with: advising town to purchase Grange Land, 135–6; alternative right of appointing officials, 91–2, 106; conditions of support of Charter, 76; Gunpowder Plot, 37; jurisdiction in Bishop's fee, 261; musters, 221; proceedings in regard to gibbet and inclosures, 59–64; stewardship, 89–92; references, 32, 34, 37–9, 70, 71–2, 75, 93–4, 98, 105, 107, 108, 130–1, 141, 147, 161–2, 163, 168, 170, 183, 192, 194, 216, 222, 223, 228, 232, 255–6; Sir Henry, Kt., 11, 15, 42, 51, 57, 69, 103, 162, 168, 232, 279; Henry, Lord Loughborough, 298, 313, 320–1, 323, 329, 466–7, 470–1, 473, 481; Lucy, Countess Dowager of Huntingdon, 443, 460; Theophilus, 7th Earl of Huntingdon, 443, 545, 559–60, 561, 563, (R.) 571, 577–8, 579, 582, 584, 585, 588, (R.) 597; Countess of Huntingdon, 70, 73, 74, 280, 281; Walter, 34, 55, 104, 111, 119, 162; Lord, 11, 98
 Hastwell: Richard, 293; Thomas, 586
 Hatfield, 412, 446
 Hawfeild, Roger (Town Clerk), 98, 99, 109, 118, 120, 150, 169, 172, 180, 597
 Hawking, 409
 Hawkins, Ellen, 159
 Hay, Francis, Earl of Errol, 46; James, Earl of Carlisle, 261
 Hay, 68, 216, 354, 493, 494, 543
 Hayne (Haynes): Robert, 361, 432; Thomas, bequest, 353, 361, 417, 431, 432, 433, 441, 442, 455–6
 Headley, (Hedley): Joseph, 402; Robert, 292; Thomas, 292; Thomas, junior, 402; William, horse gelder, 201, 325; William, malster, 197; widowe, 197
 Hearth Tax, 518
 Hearths, 544
 Heath, Thomas, 155
 Heay Brooke, 255
 Heminges, Henry, 393, 403
 Hemp: hammers to beat, 585; work for poor people on, 267, 268, 290
 Hen, rent, 544
 Henchman, Humphrey, Bishop of London, 515
 Hennings, Henry, 112
 Henry, Prince, 2, 4, 93, 97, 99, 116, 125, 132, 210
 Hensham, George, 46
 Henshawe: John, 222; Thomas, 296, 356, (B.) 598, (Ch.) 601, (C.) 602, 605, 606; Thomas, 420, (A.) 441, 463, 471; William, 198, (Ch.) 601
 Heraldry: arms, cognisances, crests, depuration to survey, 187, 199; cinque foil, for marking weights and measures, 588; King's arms, *see that title*; Merchant Taylors' arms, 109; silver sinckfoyle for coat, 191; State's arms, *see that title*; Town arms, *see that title*
 Herbage, 68, 69, 354, 360, 366, 543
 Herbert: Philip, Earl of Pembroke and Montgomery, 244–5, 265, 353, 364; William, Earl of Pembroke, 12
 Herdsman, High Town, 555
 Hermitage, Armytage, 58, 191, 200–1
 Hermitage well, 296
 Heresy, imprisonment for, 385–6
 Heretical books, 386–7
 Herost, Arthur, 292
 Hesilrigg, *see* Hasilrigg
 Heslewood, Mrs, *see* Haslewood, Elizabeth
 Hewood, *see* Heywood
 Hewson, Colonel, 363

- Hewett, John, 587
 Hewytt, Anthony, 197, 207
 Heyford, Richard, 539
 Heyrick (Herik, Herick): Elizabeth, 295;
 John, 54, 66, (T.) 145, 149, 150, 171-
 2, 198, 219, 231, 238, 247, 543, (M.)
 598, (C.) 602, 603, 604; Robert, glover,
 25, 27, 31, 37, (M.) 39-41, 42, 46, 51,
 54, (M.) 57, 58, 61, 64, 66, 67, 68, 71,
 72, 89, 90, 107, 114, 123, 128, 129, 136,
 138, 140, (T.) 145, 149, 173, 177, 325,
 (M.) 598, 603; Sarah, 267; Thomas, 54,
 57; Tobye, 46; Sir William, Kt., 57,
 137, 150, 156-7, 164-6, 169, 176, 184,
 195-6, 220, 227-8, 229-30, 409, 417,
 599; William, King's jeweller, 32, 57;
 —, of Houghton, 217; —, 6, 50, 52, 61,
 64, 71, 76, 226, 375, 377, 456, 463
 Heyne, Agnes, 30
 Heywood (Hewood): Henry, 607; Hugh,
 29; John, 206; —, 510
 Hext, William, 368
 Hickling (Hicklyn): Robert, gentleman,
 528; —, 374, 412
 Hickman, Sir William, 142-4
 Hicks, James, officer of G.P.O., 512
 Hides, 41, 164, 482
 Higginson, Francis, 229
 Higgs: Daniel, 495; William, 593
 High Cross, 9, 114, 219, 281
 High Sheriff: 38, 226, 370, 515; *see also*
 Faunt, George; Hastings, Henry; Noell,
 Wm.; Pochin, Thomas, *and* Shirley, Sir
 Henry
 High Street, 69, 526, 527, 544
 High Town Pasture, 542-3
 Hill (Hyll): Francis, 197-8; Gabriel, 562,
 (Ch.) 602, (C.) 603; John, 290; Richard,
 556, 562; Roger, 290; William, 222;
 —, 248, 249
 Hinckley, —, 120, 521
 Hinde, John, 152, 219, 290, 339, 356, 528,
 (B.) 597, (M.) 598, 599, (Ch.) 600, 601,
 (C.) 602, 604
 Hitch, Richard, 493
 Hitchcocke, William, 310
 Hobart, Sir Henry, Chief Justice of Common
 Pleas, 176-7
 Hobby, Margaret, 372, 405
 Hobson: Robert, 562, (B.) 588, 598, (Ch.)
 602; William, labourer, 17
 Hodges, Fr., 197
 Hogg, William, 329
 Holland, woman and children from, to be
 sent back to London, 403
 Holman (Holeman), —, head usher of
 Grammar School, 489, 493
 Holmbyre, 363, 364
 Holmes: Robert, constable, 387-8; Samuel,
 594; Thomas, vicar of St Martin's, 166,
 221, 226, 229, 234, 247-8, 251-2;
 William, baker, 383, (Ch.) 601, (C.) 603,
 607
 Holt: Edward, 67, 352-3; —, 557
 Holyrood Lane, 526, 543
 Hood: Richard, 156; Walter, 555, 562,
 (F.) 569, (M.) 599, (Ch.) 601, (C.) 603,
 605
 Hooker, John, 413
 Horne blowing, at tackinge of kye and
 swine, 58
 Horneby, Samuel, 446
 Horse fair, 105, 204, 262, 281, 288, 366,
 386
 Horsefair deke, repairs, 253
 Horse ffaire leyes, 335
 Horse market, 490, 491
 Horse mill, 353, 392
 Horse pasture, 370
 Horse pool near St James' Chapel, 494, 495
 Horses: for Army, 12, 304, 348, 363, 368;
 burial, 342; hire of, payments, 46, 73,
 78, 98, 108, 109, 120, 134, 172, 234, 276,
 280, 304, 323, 329, 334, 363, 376, 393,
 398, 406, 411, 417, 440-1, 456, 472, 473,
 478, 513, 518, 544, 547, 551, 555, 559,
 584, 593, 594, 595; right of common,
 270, 542; sale, 402
 Horton, Andrew, shoemaker, 391
 Hosiers, 496
 Hospital of St John Baptist and Leonard,
 362, 439, 478, 557
 Hospital of Trinity in the Newark: ad-
 mission, 94, 100, 113, 118, 174, 262;
 auditors, 415; bequests and gifts, 186-7,
 190, 245, 292, 329, 405-6, 483, 493, 504,
 517, 518, 534; Bill for survey of such
 houses, 434; deeds and documents, 166-7;
 disturbance of people, 555; history of
 foundation, and particulars, 111-13; John
 Gib's petition, proceedings, 164-7, 184-6;
 incorporation in the Newark, 150, 156-8;
 Master, Mayor's right to office and fees,
 etc., 93-4, 107, 108, 157, 185, 211, 329,
 454, 490, 504, 541; Master, *see also*
 Fowkes, William; Minister, salary, 227,
 230, 398, 454, 456; *see also* Holmes,
 Thomas; number of inmates, 113; pay
 and allowances to poor men, 99, 113,
 186-7, 329, 342, 354, 398, 559; payment
 to Mr Symes, 417; petitions to Parlia-
 ment, 434, 435, 466; petition by poor
 people to King, 134; purchase money
 and deed, 398; Reeder, salary, 329;
 repair, 191, 430-1; revenues and pay-
 ments, 111-12, 113-14, 355, 378-81, 405,
 413, 536, 540, 543, 557, 581, 582; sermon,
 157-8, 409, 505; unjust accusations, 263;
 references, 3, 45, 107, 108, 112, 164,
 215, 424, 589
 Hospital, William Wigston's, the New:
 accounts, 418, 445-6, 447, 462; bequest
 to, 333, 405; charge of being converted
 into a house of malting, 197; confrator,
 389, 401, 481, 512; evidence chamber
 lock, 446; grievances, 418-19; Mr Lee's
 letter, 435; Master: appointment, etc.,
 389, 415-16, 418; *see also* Clarke, Dr;
 Lee, Richard, *and* Saint Savior; master,
 deputy, offer for, 389; payments to chap-

- lain and poor, 213, 226, 247; petitions to, 444-6; power to fill empty places, 459; public receiver, 389; resident master urged, 418; trustees' power lost on return of King, 460-1; warden, *see* Master, *above*; references, 150, 555
- Hospitality, payments, 253, 276, 281
- Hostlers, orders to restrain excessive gain by, 200-1
- Hotgate, 70, 544
- Houghton, 111, 217
- House, Valentine, Town Solicitor, 587
- House of Correction: escape from, 247; Gaolkeeper, appointments, 104, 106, 146, 356, 443, 509, *see also* Brewin, Robert; Mathewes, Edward; Parsons, Richard; Watts, Henry; house to be used for common gaol, 328; lunatic sent to, 414; man committed to, 203; master, *see* Gaolkeeper *above*; suitable place for, 21, 150-1; work for inmates, 267, 297, 393; references, 25, 27, 64, 96, 106, 186, 191, 290, 328, 585
- Housekeeper, gifts, 346-7
- Houses, Town, complaints respecting sale, etc., 121-2
- Howard: Charles, Earl of Nottingham, 12, 119; Thomas, Earl of Arundel, 107, 298; Thomas, Earl of Suffolk, 141
- Howe, William, 194
- Howett, George, 107, (F.) 145
- Hubbard (Hubbord, Hubbard): Captain, 379-80, 424; Lord, 195
- Hubbins, William, (B.) 598
- Huckle, John, Town Clerk, 493, 498, 558, 562, 573, 597, 607
- Hudson: Thomas, 238; —, 340
- Hue and cry, 171
- Huffin, Thomas, shoemaker, 391
- Hughe, John, 587
- Hull, John, fiddler, 415
- Humber, William, 253
- Humberston, 111, 527, 528
- Humberston Gate, 29
- Huncomb, 515
- Hungate, Sir Henry, 315, 323, 519
- Hungerton, 362, 478
- Hunsdon, Earl of, *see* Carey, Robert
- Hunt, Bartholomew, 363, 406; Edward, 420, 503; Edmund, 73, 356; Thomas, Under Usher in Free School, 101, 183; Thomas, (F.) 66, 142-4, (F.) 145, (Ch.) 600; William, 52, (F.) 66, 89, 123, (F.) 145, (B.) 597, (Ch.) 601, (C.) 602, 604
- Hunter: Hugh, 25, 27, 66, (T.) 145, 152, 603; Thomas, (M.) 598; —, 6, 47, 73
- Hunting, 38, 210
- Huntingdon, Earl of, *see* Hastings
- Hurdells, 108, 163
- Huskin, William, 310
- Hutchyn, Anthony, 9
- Hutten, Leon, 100
- Hynde, John, 56, (Ch.) 66, (T.) 145, 213, 238, 301, 365, 391
- Hytchcocke, William, 345
- Illiteracy, 513, 596
- Informers, 26, 425
- Ing (Inge): Abraham, carpenter, 334; Abraham, 494; Alexander, ironmonger, 268, 296, (Ch.) 601; Richard, 262-3, 295, 368-9, (B.) 598, (M.) 599, (Ch.) 600, 604; Robert, 242; William, esquire, 528; —, 318
- Ingham, —, 267
- Inglesby (Ynglesbie), Robert, 29
- Ingram: Ar. 4; Sir Thomas, 521-; Thos., 515
- Injunction, 49
- Inn of Court, 115
- Innings, Francis, carpenter, 525
- Inns, Alehouses, etc.: Alehousekeepers, forfeited recognizances, 192-3; 'Angel,' 10, 37, 56, 78, 97, 99, 103, 139, 287, 298, 303, 323, 348, 478, 544, 551, 588, 593; begging at, 485; in Bishop's Fee, disorderly, 305-6; 'Blue Boar,' 79; 'Bull and Boar,' 44, 542; 'The Crane,' 399, 406, 407, 534; 'Cross Keyes,' 47; disorderly drinking, 95; 'The George,' in Lombard Street, 469; Innholders, orders to restrain excessive gain, 200-1; Innkeepers, victuallers and alehousekeepers, food for levies from, 221; licences, 176-7; no inns visited by plague, 114; number, 498; poor men's boxes set up in, 248; regulations, 174-5, 286; 'Red Lyon,' 440, 474, 588; 'Roundhead Inn,' 517; sign taken down, 288; 'Sign of the Bull,' 10; superfluous number of alehouses, 160; Talbot, 46; unlicensed and disorderly, 259; warrant to create inns, 174-5; 'White Horse,' 362, 478; 'White Lyon,' 559
- Insurrections and rebellions: on Grange Heath, 551; prevention, 470, 489; *see also* Riots
- Ireland: army in, 75, 163, 330, 332, 336-7, 356, 360; rebellion in, 549
- Ireton, John, 466
- Irish, —, 530
- Irish: Brigade, 472; march of, 594; people, gifts to, 275, 291; taxes, committee for, 348
- Iron, 241
- Ironmonger Lane, 70
- Isle of Rhé, 237
- Ive (Ives): William, 4, (Ch.) 36, 55, 66, 92, 116, 138, (T.) 145, 149, (M.) 152, 158, 161, 173, 177, 219, 231, 238, 301, 303, 309-10, 334, 404, 405, 551, (M.) 598, 599, (Ch.) 600, (C.) 602, 603, 604; —, 218, 261, 285, 288, 291, 294, 416; William, M.P., 599
- Jacke, 37
- James I, 1, 10, 11, 33, 123, 124-5, 134, 170-1, 172, 191, 195-6, 212, 217, 218-20, 474
- James II, 497, 531, 579, 581, 582, 584, 588
- James: George, 251

- Jaques, William, 445
 Jarvis (Jarvice): Mathew, burneman, 221; Robert, 157; Richard, 441; —, 226
 Jeffery: John, 391; Richard, King's chaplain, 159–60, 172
 Jefford, Francis, 223
 Jennard, Judge, 588
 Jermyn, Thomas, 599
 Jersey, Isle of, 455
 Jersey, spinning and knitting, 101, 102
 Jersey, comber, 526
 Jersey, wheels, 393, 397
 Jervis: Henry, watchman, 495; Robert, 30; William, 529; *see also* Jarvis
 Jesse: Agnes, 199; Clement, 199
 Jesson: John, 556, 562, (Ch.) 602, 607; Thomas, clerk, stipendiary minister of St Mary's parish, 68–9; —, 120, 544
 Jesuits, writ respecting apprehension of, 42
 Jet rings, 22
 Jew, converted, 417
 Jeweller, the King's, *see* Heyricke, William
 Jewry wall, 503
 Joanes, Frances, 159
 Johnson: Edmund, 303, (M.) 325, 414; (T.) 587, (B.) 598, (M.) 599, (Ch.) 602, 603, 604–5; James, 40–1; John, labourer, 10, 55; Nicholas, 527; Phillippe, leper, 213; Richard, 606; Robert, 29, (F.) 66, (F.) 145, 199, 334, (Ch.) 600; Thomas, labourer, 8; Thomas, (F.) 145; William, 606; —, 247, 490; Mrs., 529
 Joles, 484
 Jolley, Joseph, of Braunston, 104–5
 Judges or Justices of Assize, 70, 114, 177, 188–9, 232, 388, 541, 554
 Judges' lodging, 114, 128–9
 Judges, resolutions of, purchase of book concerning, 291
 Jury, 86, 539
 Jury Wall, *see* Jewry Wall
 Justices of the Peace: 10, 11, 13, 18–19, 42, 61, 65, 70, 259, 284, 453, 497, 554, 561, 563, 574; for the County, 59, 60, 62, 97, 98, 99, 110–1, 162, 258, 266, 439, 467; for Derbyshire, 194
 Juxon, —, apothecary, 521
 Keeble, pack sergeant, 466
 Kelly, Earl of, *see* Erskine, Thomas
 Kenny, Thomas, 254, 255
 Kent, Earl and Countess, 364
 Kerby, John, (F.) 587
 Kestian, John, (Ch.) 486, 601, 606, 607
 Kettleby (Lincs.), 40
 Keye, tax money of the, 181
 Keyner, William, 505
 Keynton, fight at, 329
 Kibworth, 403
 Kibworth Hercourt, 544
 Kidemuster stuff for Town Hall table, 546
 Kids, wood, 580, 584, 585, 593, 595
 Kilby, Joseph, 584
 Kilns, 157, 207, 250–1
 Kimberley, —, 326
 King (Kynge): George, 238; Randall, 292; Richard, 262; Robert, 415; Stephane, 180; —, macebearer, 480; —, 280; widow, 508
 King's 'Ancient Leete and H.M. Back-houses in Leicester,' 13
 King's arms 74, 109, 274, 281, 465, 472–3
 Kings Cliffe, 210
 King's colours, 472
 King's evil, 248
 King's fine, 17
 King's household, 140
 King's Messenger, 551
 King's players, *see under* Players, payments to
 King's Remembrancer of the Exchequer, 52
 King's water, rent for Piscary in, 474–5
 Kings Wood bruke, 39
 Kingston upon Hull, 78
 Kirby Muxlow, 10, 55
 Kirche, William, 188
 Kirke: James, 217, 269–70; John, 248; Richard, labourer, 28; Richard, 607; —, 428
 Kitchen, necessaries for, 20
 Knaptoft, 440
 Knight: Edward, (F.) 145, 235; Elizabeth, drowned, 539; John, (F.) 66.
 Knighthood, fines in default of appearance, 255–6
 Knightley, Sam, 156, 163
 Knighton, 55, 56, 111, 183, 368, 393, 453, 527
 Knighton meare, 182, 202
 Knighton Slade, 182, 202
 Knights, registering, proclamation, 207
 Knitters, poor, bequest for, 326
 Kye, blowing of horne at Tacking of, 58
 Kyes pasture, *see* Cow pasture
 Kylyb, 111
 Kyndersley, 107
 Kyrbye Muxloe, *see* Kirby Muxlow
 Labour: children, 101, 102, 205, 537; wages, *see that title*
 Lacemaking, 101, 102, 326
 Lacy, Mrs Anne, 550–1
 Lake, Sir Thomas, Kt., 169
 Lalater, 579
 Lambe, Sir John, 249
 Lambert, Colonel, 392, 466
 Lammas Tithes, 69, 120, 226
 Lancaster, Duchy of: allowance to hospital, 380, 581–2; attorney, 35, 250; *see also* Moseley, Sir Edward; auditor, 447, 520; auditor, deputy, *see* Palgrave; Chamber at Westminster, suit in, 119, 189; Chancellor, 13, 35, 43, 112, 147, 299, 520, 533, 589; *see also* Dacombe, Sir John, Kt.; Fortescue, Sir John; May, Sir H.; and Parrie, Sir Thomas; Charter from, to go toll free, 28; Court, 14, 74, 106; effect of Charter, 14, 35; forgery of seal suspected, 138; Honor of Leicester

- parcel of, 85; piscary case referred to auditor, 474; Mayor's oath, 95; new lands, Receiver of, *see* Newce, —; officers, 520; order, 49; revenues, 273; rights of King through, 82
- Lancaster: Duke of, *see* Gresmond, Henry; Dukes of, 266
- Land: disputes, 201–2; four yard land, *see* Archer's land and Wightman's land; lease or sale of town lands, arrangements, 89; purchase, 203, 208, 213, 406, 517; regulations respecting tenants, 208; sale of town lands, 526–9; taxes, *see under* Taxation
- Lane: Francis, 476; John, 476
- Langley, 116
- Langley, George, 109, 126, 157
- Langton, Robert, 587, 607
- Lannder, *see* Launder
- Last, W., 384
- Laud, William, Bishop of London, 265, 276
- Lauderdale (Lotherdale), Earl of, *see* Maitland, John
- Launder (Lanner, Lawnder): John, 11, 311; —, 471; Mrs, 197
- Laundress, King's, 348
- Law, books for use of the, 291
- Lawncey, Julian, 118
- Lawrence, Thomas, 606
- Lawsuits: Borough *v.* John Freake, 161; Borough *v.* John Sharman, for title of Frythe closes, 119, 120, 132; Castle Mills, 70; charges, and arrangements in connection with, 46, 57, 106, 108, 150, 161, 172, 183; Quo warranto suit for illegal market, 427; toll, 42, 77, 98, 261, 427
- Laxton, Thomas, 522
- Lead pipes found in field, 46
- Leads of St Mary's chancel, cleansing, 517
- Leather bag for weighing bread and butter, 73
- Leather Hall: part of Drapery Chamber to be used, 358, 378; petition for, 482, 515; rent, 461, 511
- Lecturer, *see* Preacher
- Lectures, *see* Sermons
- Lee: Edward, bodymaker, 516; James, 458, 488, 508, 527, (B.) 598, (Ch.) 601, (C.) 603, 607; Richard, Master of the new Hospital, 389, 399–400, 415–16, 426–7, 435, 445–6
- Leeds, request to be made a Staple Town, 169
- Legacies, *see* Bequests
- Legitt, Richard, (Ch.) 601, 607
- Leicester Forest, *see* Forest
- Leigh, Sir Francis, Kt., 140, 599
- Lem, Joseph, of the City of London, bricklayer, 527
- Lent: killing flesh, 161; payment for wood to burn fish in, 494; regulations, 130
- Lenthall, William, Speaker of the House of Commons, 332, 466
- Leonard, Samson, *alias* Blewmantle, 187
- Leppington, —, 12, 157
- Leprosy, 213
- Letherland, Henry, 445
- Letter Office, London, 511
- Letters, carriage to London, 462
- Letters of Request from King, 268
- Letters Patent: for hospital, 157; *see also* Charters
- Lewin: William, 606; —, King's coachman, 280
- Lewis (Lewys): Hugh, 326; Katherine, 433
- Ley, John, foot post, 462, 469, 483
- Leys: in the horsefair, 8, 204–5; *see also* Meadows
- Leys, Cp., 392
- Libel, setting up on church door, 425
- Librarian: appointment, 289, 549; salary, 246, 271, 541; *see also* Bottomley, Jacob; Coker, Giles; Higgs, William; and Peck, Francis
- Library: books given to, 353, 456; books for, 275–6; charges in connection with, 272, 276; list of donations, 285; regulation, 509–10; removal of books from chancery to, 270–1
- Licences: for drawing of wines, 161; to servant to leave master, 21; to teach, 531; wine, 4, 6–7
- Lichfield, 322, 370, 393
- Lieutenant: deputy, *see* Deputy Lieutenant; letter from Privy Council, 514–5; offer respecting toll, 65; order for assessment, 583; power to levy rate, 583; *see also* Grey, Henry, Earl of Stamford; Hastings, Henry, Earl of Huntingdon; Loughborough, Lord; Manners, John, Earl of Rutland
- Limerick, Bishop of, 32
- Lincoln: Elizabeth, 534; Stephen, (Ch.) 601, 605, 606, 607; —, 420, 438, 518
- Lincoln: Bishop of, 265–6, 267; *see also* Barlow, William; Chaderton, William; Neile, Richard; Williams, John; Winiffe, Thomas; Mayor of, 367
- Lincolnshire, 39, 71
- Lindsey, Earl of, *see* Bertie, Robert
- Linen: fine for retailing, 311; for royal visit, 20–1; for use on royal visit, 12, 32; washing, payment, 32
- Links, 12, 329
- Linsey, *see* Lynsey
- Lister: Richard, 532; —, 77
- Litterman, —, 11
- Littletons, —, 38
- Livery, *see* Dress and livery
- Loans: to buy corn, list, 198; forced, *see under* Taxation; forbearing of money, 56; free to four young tradesmen, 109; interest, 45, 57, 78, 308, 327, 330, 441, 473, 495, 556, 592; mortgages, 525; particulars respecting, 149, 156, 273, 308, 314, 330, 377, 378, 405, 532, 534; for present to King, 467–8
- Lock book, 239, 459, 478
- Locks, repairs of, 162–3, 291

- Loe, Edmund, 123, 129
 London: Arundel House, 520; Bishop of, 488, 489; *see also* Henchman, Humphrey; and Laud, William; 'Black Bull,' Bishopsgate St., 155; Charterhouse, 159, 426; Durham Place, 7; Greater Wood St., 137; Grey Friars Hospital, 230; Holborn, 137; Margaret Street, 390; Mayor, *see* White, Sir Thomas; Sheriff, *see* Ramond, Sir Jonathan; Soper Lane, 325; 'Three Sugar Loaves,' 581; Tower, 38; weekly news from, arrangements, 370; Westminster, Dean of, 142; Westminster School, 426; Whitehall Palace, 1, 482-3, 532
 London, Raph, imprisonment for heresy, 385-6
 Long Braunceley, 255
 Long Whatton, 377
 Longe: Sir Listebone, late Recorder of London, 455; William, 462
 Longley, George, 12
 Lord, Robert, 547, 586, 587, 592
 Lord Chamberlain: 191, 196, 265; *see also* Montgomery, Earl of; to Queen, *see* Stanhope, Philip, Earl of Chesterfield
 Lord Chancellor, 13, 34-5; *see also* Elsmere, Lord
 Lord Chief Justice, 28, 157, 193
 Lord High Admiral, *see* Howard, Charles, Earl of Nottingham
 Lord High Treasurer, 7, 582; *see also* Weston, Richard, Earl of Portland
 Lord Keeper: 266, 269, 295, 300, 531; *see also* Coventry, Lord; *and* Williams, Dr John; clerk of the presentations to, *see* Brett, Mr
 Lord President of the Council, 400-1, 412
 Lord President of the Sessions in Scotland, *see* Fyvie
 Lord Privy Seal, *see* Montagu, Henry, Earl of Manchester
 Lords Place, 322, 361, 375, 376-7, 385, 390, 392, 395, 505, 511, 519, 525, 544
 Loseby: John, 474, 496; William, sheriff, 527, 607
 Loseby Lane, 526, 529
 Lotherdale, the Lord, *see* Maitland, John, Earl of Lauderdale
 Lott and Scott, 18, 56, 95, 238, 501, 563, 576
 Lottery, for Plantation of Virginia, 175, 204, 208, 217, 288
 Loughborough, 134, 299-300, 301, 303, 304, 405, 513, 547; Lord, 212; *see also* Hastings, Henry
 Low Countries, war with, *see* Dutch War
 Lowder, Job, 73
 Lowe, Edmund, 141-2; Robert, 606
 Ludlam: George, 292, 363, 391; James, 356, 528, (Ch.) 601, 605, 606; J., 464; Margaret, 130; Richard, 295, (M.) 320, 356, 384, 419, (T.) 441, 446, 452, 517, (M.) 599, (Ch.) 601, 604, 605, 606; Robert, 46, 130, 162-3, 326; Samuel, 558; Thomas, 130, (T.) 145, 391, 522, 562, 563, (M.) 567-8, 574, (M.) 599, (Ch.) 602, (C.) 603, 606; William, 46, 66, 69, 89, 130, (M.) 217, 218, 238, 325, 496, (B.) 597, (M.) 599, (Ch.) 600, (C.) 602, 604; —, 168, 197, 254, 255, 287, 345, 348, 365, 371, 421, 428, 403
 Lukyn, 89
 Luscoke, Earl of, 46
 Lutterworth, 78, 112, 118-19, 120, 361
 Lycorish, Thomas, 408
 Lyllinge, Rychard, 30
 Lymme, Widow, 30
 Lynsey (Linsey): Bartholomew, 104, 191, 309; Margaret, widow, 529
 Lyon, William, 544
 Lyster, Colonel, 558, 595
 Mabason, Christopher, 278
 Mabbes, (Mabbs): John, 9, 45, 47, 48, 50, 51, 54, 63, 66, 69, 103, 104, (M.) 112, 114, 123, 181, (F.) 145, (B.) 597, (M.) 598, (Ch.) 601, 603, 606; John, the younger, 164, 202, 292, 302, 530
 Mace: ceremonial use, 14, 63, 141, 548; gilding and repairs, 123, 133, 280; lost at capture of town, 331; new, 331, 342, 366, 377, 394, 398, 469, 471, 473; new, enlargement, 366, 377, 469, 471, 473; silver, 4, 473; made by Thomas Maundy, 383-4
 Macebearers, appointments etc., 3, 51, 96, 106, 123, 272, 327, 344, 422, 431, 438, 469, 471, 480, 508, 548, 573-4, 587; *see also* King, —; Orton, William; Welden, Thomas
 Macedonia, Joseph, Archbishop of, 119
 Maior: Anthony, gentleman, 442, 464, 487; John, 278, 399, 397, 398, 427, 434, 447, 448, 457; William, gentleman, Keeper of the Gaol, 443, (B.) 510, 529, 551, 572-3, 589, (B.) 598; —, 198
 Maitland, John, Earl of Lauderdale, 535
 Major Generals, 428, 439, 449, 562, (Ch.) 602, (C.) 603, 605, 607
 Malt, sale, 152, 153
 Malt Mill, 70, 353, 492; *see also* Horse Mill
 Malting, regulations etc., 37, 74, 206-7, 250-1
 Maltsters: complaints against, 196-7; fines, 261; list, 197; regulations, 74, 152, 153, 253-4
 Malynes, Gerard, 154-5
 Manbie; Thomas, 66, 112, 136, 138, 140, (M.) 141, 145, 149, (B.) 597, (M.) 598, 603, 604; —, 6, 328
 Mann, Philip, 333, 339, (Ch.) 601
 Manncefield, 39
 Manners, Earl of Rutland, 32; John, Earl of Rutland, 162, 525, 583, 584
 Manning, Thomas, 356, 387-8, 447
 Mansfield, Lord, 249
 Manton, —, 232

- Manuall of Prayers, A.*, 22
 Manwaring, (Mannewringe), —, 163
 Marfin, *see* Murfyn
 Margaret's Cow Pasture, 398
 Market: assising butter, 109; clerk, 120; clerk, deputy, *see* Moone (or Morse); country towns, 443, 448; days, 18, 322, 390, 435; exclusion of foreigners, 377; free from toll, 74; sale of barley, 74; suspension owing to plague, 103; Saturday, *see* Saturday market; Swyne, *see that title*; unauthorised, 427; Women's, 98, 484, 489; *see also* Trade
 Market Harborough, 103; *see also* Harborough
 Market place: corn wall, *see that title*; gibbet, 62; *see also* Saturday market
 Market towns: erection of stall or shop by freemen except in, forbidden 424; list
 Marriages, civil, 433
 Marriot, Richard, 520
 Marshall: Hugh, (T.) 66, 292, (C.) 602, 603; Samuel, 414, (T.) 421, 606; Tobias, (F.) 587, (C.) 603; William, (F.) 145; widow, 310; —, 6, 52
 Martin (Martyn, Marten): Edmund, 413; Francis, 281, 391, 413; George, 296, 339, (B.) 408, (T.) 414, (C.) 441, (B.) 598, (M.) 599; (Ch.) 601, (C.) 602, 604, 605; Richard, 597; Samuel, 562, (Ch.) 602, 607; Thomas, 89; —, 292, 297, 392, 447
 Mary I., 113
 Mary II., 549, 594—5
 Mary Lane, repair, 249—50
 Mary Meadowe, 31, 68, 181, 543, 585, 592
 Mary Mill, 68, 360, 543
 Mason: John, 527, (Ch.) 533, 555, 562, 591, (Ch.) 602, 607; Richard, (T.) 562, 587; Thomas, 593
 Masons, John, 9
 Masons, wages, 12, 276
 Master of Requests, 194
 Mat, for Mayor's feet at Gainsborough, 549
 Mathew, Tobias, Bishop of Durham, 32
 Mathews, (Mathewes), Edward, Keeper of Bridewell, 509, 539
 Matting, borrowed from church, 534
 Maundy, Thomas, of London, Goldsmith, 383—4
 Maurison, Sir Richard, 267
 Mawson: Thomas, (F.) 145, (Ch.) 600, 604; William, 344; —, 254
 May Day fair, 308
 May, (Maye): Justice Bent, 307; Sir Humphrey, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, 184—5, 190, 208, 227—8, 229, 599; Thomas, 57
 Mayes, Robert, carpenter, 398
 Mayor: affront to, on way to service, 548; chronological list, 598; deputy, 39, 42, 48, 452—3; dress, *see under* Dress; election, 21, 48, 102, 109, 120, 452, 453, 462, 569—70, 596; duties, 47; funeral, 452—3; jurisdiction in Bishop's Fee, 261; marriage before, 433; Master of Hospital, 262; oath, ceremony etc. 13—14, 17, 85, 95—6, 134, 342, 394, 562, 563, 574—5; one gazett a week and no weekly bill, 541; power to appoint deputy, 17; powers respecting plague, 496; procedure at royal visits, 124—5; qualifications, etc., 14, 561, 578; question of giving list of men, 298; refusal to hold court, 49; refusal to serve prohibited, 331; salary and allowances, 20, 48, 211, 217, 360, 365, 489, 512, 541; to stand bareheaded before Lieutenant, 64; terms of Charter, 86, 566; *see also* list, 598, *and under names*
 Mayoralty, danger of being reduced to a Bailliwick, 35
 Mayor's Clerks, list, 597
 Mayor's Leet, 15
 Mayor's Old Hall, *see* Hall
 Meadow and pasture, 9, 209, 210, 500, 540; *see also* Pasture and names of places
 Measures, *see* Weights and Measures
 Melton, 28, 223, 329, 553
 Melton Mowbray, 103, 340; school, scholarship to Oxford from, 432
Memoriall of A Christian Lief, A., 22
 Mercers, country, 322, 456
 Mercers' and Drapers' Case, 475—7
 Mercers' shops in Saturday market, 97
 Merchant Adventurers, 7
 Merchants Guild, 139
 Merchants of Staple, 173, 183
 Merchant Taylors Company, 109, 257
 Merry, Thomas, 480
 Merry, Sir Thomas, 217
 Merten, William, 39
 Merton College, Oxford, *see under* Oxford
 Messengers' expenses and charges, 70, 71, 97, 162, 172, 183, 207, 218, 227, 234, 235, 239, 248, 253, 262, 280, 322, 323, 324, 329, 334, 343, 363, 370, 393, 398, 406, 411, 412, 417, 425, 449, 472, 473, 478, 488, 489, 505, 513, 518, 544, 551, 559, 586, 594, 595
 Metrosses, going to North, 393
 Meyrys, Mrs., 27
 Middleton: Bartholomew, (F.) 66, 89; John, of Exton, 8; William, 11, 32, 73; —, 515
 Miller (Millner), Robert, 198, 219, (Ch.) 600, (C.) 602, 604
 Millers, 51, 199
 Mill Lane, 378, 508
 Mills, 51, 57, 293; *see also* Castle Mill; Horse Mill; Mary Mill; Newark Mill
 Mills, Richard, of Enderby, 427
 Millwright, wages, 530
 Milton Lane, 382, 527
 Ministers, *see* Preachers and ministers
 Mitchell, John, (F.) 66, 145, 296, 540, (Ch.) 600
 Modrehead, 474
 Mole, Richard, 120
 Monk, George, Duke of Albemarle, 458—9, 467, 471, 472; Lord, 531

Monke, Christopher, 193-4
 Monmouth, Duke of, defeat, 584, 585
 Monopolies; proclamation against, 7
 Monson, Sir Richard, 599
 Montagu, Henry, Earl of Manchester, Lord Privy Seal, 265
 Montague, Lord, of Boughton, 525; Sir Edward, Knight, 60, 62
 Montgomery, Earl of, *see* Herbert, Philip
 Montrose, Duke of, *see* Graham, James
 Moone, —, 137-8
 Moore; Bartholomew, 423, 425; Thomas, 254, 255; Thomas, of Gainsborough, 434-5; —, minister of Shearsby, 414, 428; —, 412, 428, 434, 440
 More, Roger, 157
 Mordinne, —, 38
 Morrice, William, 515
 Morris, Daniel, 288, 292
 Morryce, Alice, widow, 31
 Mortelake, 466
 Mortgage, 525
 Mortmain, licence, 199, 203, 536
 Morton: Thomas, 9; William, 53, 64, 66, 75, 92, 112, 114, 128, 129, 131, 130, 138, 140, 145, 149, 152, 173, 182, (M.) 598, 603, 604; William, Archdeacon of Durham, 132; —, bequest, 556, 557; —, 6, 37, 40, 42, (M.) 47, 49, 50, 61, 64, 69, 170, 186
 Mortons, Nicholas, 9
 Mortuaries, 67, 69, 544
 Moseley: Sir Edward, 162, 290, 296, 492; Thomas, weaver, 101, 102; William, 526
 Mote, William, 71
 Motley, Francis, 412, 472, 495
 Mountebank, Doctor, 539
 Mountebanks, 525
 Mountney, —, 406
 Mountsorel, legacy to poor at, 189, 193, 373-4, 376, 399; glovers, *see under* Gloves; men, 377; trader of, 448
 Mudd: Richard, 376; Simon, 252
 Mugg, Henry, 527
 Mugleston, Edward, 445
 Mulberry trees ordered to be planted, 99
 Murder, 25, 417
 Murfyn: Daniel, (F.) 145 (M.) 295, 356, 597, (B.) 598, (M.) 599, (C.) 602, 604; —, 371
 Musicians, *see* Waits
 Muskedy, 10
 Musson, John, 432
 Musters, 60, 62, 63, 98, 152, 156, 157, 163, 221, 239, 298, 300, 304, 331, 477, 494, 553, 582
 Mutche Ashbye, 9
 Myddleton, *see* Middleton
 Myllard, Ralph, quartermaster, 367, 368
 Nashe, —, 72
 Nathaniel, —, 296
 Neale, Thomas, (Ch.) 601
 Neatheard (Neyteheard), 58, 558

Nedham, —, papist, 551
 Needham: Clement, 392; Colonel, 375
 Neile, Richard, Bishop of Lincoln, and Archbishop of York, 150, 157-8, 265
 Nelson, 223
 New year's gifts, 10, 105, 106, 107, 291, 292-3, 324, 334
 Newark: burials, 343; College, history of foundation, 113; Collegiate Church, 259; gates, 378; government, 453; Hospital, *see* Hospital, Trinity; house for vicar of St Mary's in, 550; incorporation of hospital in, 150; incorporation in St Mary's parish, 402, 403, 404; judges lodged in, on account of plague, 129; mills and windmill, 10, 24, 31, 37, 54-5, 67-9, 182, 201, 231, 234, 302, 404, 508, 529, 530, 543; plan, 302; references, 11, 206, 343, 366, 533, 595
 Newark Grange: assessment for subsidy, question of, 109; Bedehouse meadows, *see that title*; dekeys to be surveyed, 36; division of land, 52, 58, 67, 183, 209; farmers of, 214, 279; Frye closes, *see that title*; old Grange house, 45, 54-58; pasture, 22, 24-5, 275; purchase, 135-6, 149, 151, 157, 211; rents, leases, etc. 8, 9-10, 12, 13, 19, 22, 24, 45, 54-5, 56, 58, 69, 104-5, 149, 208, 216, 333, 344, 362; Temple Grange, *see that title*; *see also* Archer's land, Wightman's land
 Newbould, John, 356
 Newcastle: Marquis of, *see* Cavendish
 Newcastle, King at, 364
 Newce, *see* Nuce
 Newcombe: Edward, bellfounder, 25; Edward, 8, (M.) 22, (T.) 66, 92, 145, 309; Elisha, 495; —, 41, 49, 50, 52, 226, 248
 Newmarket, 553
 News bodies, 483
 News Book, 466, 534
 News, payment for, 518
 Newton: John, vicar of St Martin's, and lecturer, 407, 512, 550, 580; John, chapman, 17; Joseph, 586; Thomas, crier, 582, 590, 594, 595, (Ch.) 601; William, 405, 412, 449, 457-8, 478, 479, 497, (Ch.) 601, 605, 606, 607; William, currier, 17; William, junior, imbrotherer, 17, 126; —, 223, 497
 Newton Longfeilde, 159
 Nicolls: Sir Augustine, Recorder, 6, 12, 14, 35, 36, 43, 49, 50, 71, 72, 77, 90, 96, 98-9, 102, 106, 109, 114, 120, 129, 597; Robert, 108
 Nidd, Richard, bequest, 189, 373-4, 376, 390
 Nixe, Thomas, 22, 42, 50, 64, (T.) 66, 70, 71, 131, (T.) 145, 204
 Noble: Francis, 296, 369, (Ch.) 375, 420, 463, (M.) 477, 491, (T.) 498, 505, 522, 525, 556, 560, 562, 563, 583, 587, (M.) 599, (Ch.) 601, (C.) 603, 605, 606, 607; Robert, 296

- Noell, William, 41
 Nonconformists, 259
 Noone: Arthur, 371, 562, 593; Francis, mustermaster, 163; John, 207; Mary, 371; Richard, 426, 454, 458, 607; William, baker, 151, 191-2
 Norman: Hugh, 399; William, labourer, 530
 Normand, Richard, 68
 Norris (Norrice, Norrys): Christopher, foot post, 465, 469, 472, 483, 496, 513; Christopher, 30; John, (F.) 145, (Ch.) 190, 198, 219, 263, 289, 292, 391, (B.) 356, 598, (M.) 599, (Ch.) 600, 601, (C.) 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607; John, junr., (F.) 145, 198, 409, 420, 448, 529, (C.) 602, 607; Richard, 170, 223; William, 25, 39, 40, 41, 42, (T.) 66, 92, 128, 131, 136, 138, 140, (T.) 145, 149, 152, 603; pinmaker, 188; —, 6, 27, 28, 49, 50, 58, 59, 284, 347, 371, 508; Mrs., 190, 310
 North Allerton, alias Adwalton, 189
 Northampton, 98, 134, 151, 152, 261, 438, 551, 594; George, Earl of, 593
 Northgate, 3, 6, 8, 9, 31, 78, 105, 133, 281, 353, 398, 526, 539, 544, 559, 583, 586
 North Gate Red Cross, 235
 North Mills, 37, 48, 56, 474-5
 Northern expedition, 298, 299, 378, 393
 Northton, 363
 Norton, Robert, 607
 Noseley, 425
 Nottingham, 39, 256, 319, 363, 368, 440, 472, 594; Earl of, *see*
 Nuce, —, receiver, 56, 478
 Nurce (Nurse): John, milner, 10, 55, 66, 69, (Ch.) 107, 108, (F.) 145, (B.) 597, (Ch.) 600, (C.) 602, 604; Richard, 333, 342; Thomas, 10, 55, 66, 69, 120, 123, (F.) 145, 333, 342, (Ch.) 600; Thomas, drummer, 163; —, 198, 201, 234, 294, 404, 405
 Nurse's Mill, *see* Newark Mill
 Nurse's Mill Lane, 311
 Nutmegs, 406
 Nutt, William, 607
 Nutter, John, 593, 594
 Oakley, Colonel, 367-8
 Oates (Otes): Samuel, 385-6, 399; —, 581
 Oaths of Supremacy and Allegiance, 467, 470, 502
 Oatmeal, 504, 517
 Obit lands, *see* Town obit lands
 Odeby, 110, 562
 Officials, choice of, under Charter, 14
 Odgen, John, beadle, 590, 594, 595
 Okeham, 120, 324
 Okeley, Nicholas, 134
 Okes, John, 42, 74, 77, 97
 Old Hall, *see* Hall
 Oleton, Thomas, 223
 Oley, John, 333
 Olyver, Thomas, 47
 Onebey, John, (St.) 278, 279, (B.) 587
 Ormond, Duke of, *see* Butler, James
 Orpwood, Robert, goldsmith, 98
 Orton: Raphe, 31; Thomas, 292, 345; Richard, 480, 532; William, 498, 505-7, 510, 552-3, 573-4, (C.) 603, 607; —, 470, 544
 Osborne, Thomas, Earl of Danby, 265
 Osewyn, Henry, 54
 Ossiter, widow, 292, 331
 Overend: John, 69, 107; Thomas, chandler, 9, 17, 41, 68
 Overing: Thomas, 292, (M.) 599, (C.) 603, 605, 606, 607; —, 531
 Overmore, John, 66
 Overseers of Highways, 274, 419; of the Poor, 246, 253, 269, 419, 474, 585
 Overton, Major General, 455
 Owyn, Davy, 20
 Oxen, 168, 497
 Oxford: Mayor of, 506; Parliament at, 557
 Oxford University: Lincoln College, 432; Merton College, 439; doctor for plague recommended, 100; scholarships to, and maintenance grants, 432, 455-6, 495, 504, 530
 Oysters, 534
 Pace, John, 301, 356
 Page: John, 526, 562; John, in prison, 495; Robert, 248; William, 587
 Pages, H.M. bedchamber, 473
 Painting houses etc., 2, 12, 274
 Pales, Sir John, 339
 Palgrave, —, deputy Auditor of Duchy, 474
 Palgrave of the Rhine, 287, 291
 Palm Sunday, 78-9
 Palmer (Pawlimer): Edward, 352, 394, 410, 421, 442, 462, 464, (F.) 466-7, 468, 551, 595, 597; Francis, carpenter, 72; George, collector, 356, 387, 388; Henry, 4-5, 31, 52, 56, (F.) 66, 68, 69, 123, 145, 149, (B.) 597, (Ch.) 600, (C.) 602, 604; James, 529; Sir Jeffery, Attorney General, 492, 498; John, 176-7; Mary, 528; Richard, 296, 356, 365, 406, 420, (T.) 421, 491, (M.) 494, 497, 504, (T.) 505, (B.) 598, (M.) 599, (Ch.) 601, (C.) 603, 605, 606, 607; Roger, mercer, 9, 97; Thomas, baker, 272; Thomas, 562, 587, (B.) 598, (Ch.) 602, (C.) 603, 606; William, 231, 311, 607; —, 202, 378, 464
 Paper, brown, 163
 Papists: books, 32, 552; convert, 167; convoy for, 259; estates, 398; plots, 322, 549, 554-5; sanctuary, 551; search for, 22, 551; suspected, 115-16
 Parchment Lane, 247
 Pardon, for Edward Bradshawe, 25
 Pare: John, 66, (T.) 94, 145, 219, 290, (B.) 597, (M.) 598, (C.) 602, 604; John, of London, linen draper, 527, 587, 594; Thomas, 8; —, 168, 238, 559

- Pares: John, 511-12, 528, (Ch.) 556, 562, 588, (Ch.) 602, 606; Thomas, butcher, 544
 Parish stipends, list and proposed increase, 340
 Parishes, union, 401-2, 403, 404, 453, 490, 500
 Parker: Henry, late of Peatlyne, 199; John, 206, 325-6, 346-7, 359, 417, 505; Joseph, 340-7; Raphe, 183; Richard, 549, 551; Robert, 188; Thomas; 17, 53, (T.) 66, 92, 95, (M.) 104, 136, 138, 140, 145, 149, 152, 173, 197, 206, (M.) 598, (C.) 602, 603, 604; William, 544; Mistress, 121-2; —, 36, 42, 52, 108, 123, 183, 198, 199
 Parkins (Parkyns): Sir George, 150; Richard, 3, 4
 Parliament: adjourned for a year under Elizabeth, 546; bills in, 412, 453, 455, 546, 547; committee, 417, 478-9; debate respecting Sir John Prettyman, 522; good correspondence with King, 581; letters from Scottish army, 343; money, 483; orders of House of Commons, 383-4, 394-5; ordinance, 18 Oct. 1644, 330; at Oxford, 557; petitions to, 339, 345-6, 412, 428-30, 476; protestation, 307; reports sent by member, 434, 534-5, 536, 546-7, 553, 581; speaker of the House of Commons, deputy appointed, 455; *see also* Lenthal, William; speaker of the House of Lords, *see* Grey of Wark
 Parliament, burgesses to, to attend on King with gift, 468; burgesses for: elections, 226, 311, 338, 419-21, 470, 473, 483, 521-2, 545, 546, 552, 560, 563, 576; entering and swearing, 555; gifts of wine and sugar, 364; instructions respecting money due to town, 379; list, 599-600; mission to parliament in regard to, 479; offer of Sir William Heyrick, 137; petition to, 140; refusal to act as, on account of oath, 296, 299; shut out for want of ticket, 433
 Parliamentary franchise, 303
 Parnell, Henry, 156
 Parradice, close at, 69
 Paradise furlong, 181
 Parrat house, 493, 494
 Parry: Sir Thomas, Knight, Chancellor of the Duchy, 89, 98, 100, 118, 126-8, 137-8, 147-9
 Parsons: Richard, keeper of the Bridewell, 469, 509, 514; William, 513, 549; Widow, 508, 514
 Paske, —, 481
 Pasture, 16, 275, 542, 558, *see also* Cow hey, Mary Meadow, *etc.*
 Patch, William, 257
 Pate, Henry, 562, (Ch.) 602
 Pattener, William, 356
 Pavements, repair, 2, 97, 98, 123, 133, *see also* Roads and streets, repairs of
 Pawley: Michael, 606; Robert, of Croson, 120, 139; —, 377
 Pawning, 259
 Payments to great persons, 32, 46, 57, 70, 98, 132, 150, 156, 162, 249
 Payne: John, 131, 181; William, 131
 Payre, *see* Pare
 Peale: Henry, 408, (Ch.) 601; Thomas, 101, 197
 Pearson: Antony, 379-80; Robert, of Frisby, 526; —, 38
 Peart, Edward, 209
 Peas and beans, not to be used as food of sheep and swine, 200
 Pease strawe, 186-7
 Peasewell, 202
 Peche, —, 454
 Peck, Francis, 253
 Peckleton, Joan, convicted of sorcery, 250
 Pedley, James, sergeant at mace, 438
 Peece, Lott, master of lottery, 175, 182
 Peeters, —, 378
 Pelham, William, 198
 Pelsant, Stephen, 392
 Pemberton, Fr. 492
 Pembroke, Earl of, *see* Herbert
 Penal laws, suspension, 532
 Pencill, Dorothy, alias Bate, 30
 Pennyles Bench, repair, 291
 Pensions, 99, 170, 204
 Pepper, Thomas, 345, 530
 Percy, 40
 Perfumes, 518
 Perkyns, Peter, 32
 Perpoint, William, of Nottingham, 525
 Person, —, 400
 Pestell: Thomas, 8, (F.) 66, 107, 125-7, 145, 288; Thomas, confrator, 512; —, 291
 Peterborough, Bishop of, 586
 Pewsey, *see* Pusey
 Pewter, 11, 12, 20-1, 32, 290
 Pewter platters, 57-8
 Philips, —, 474
 Physician, 71
 Physics, cure for cramp, 206
 Pickaxes, 48
 Pictures, 22, 23-4, 46, 163
 Pigott, —, 579
 Pigs, *see* Swine
 Pike head, the, repair, 430-1
 Pilkington (Flirkington); John, 139; Robert, 8, 10, 50, 54, (T.) 66, (C.) 602, 603; Thomas, 272; —, 3, 11, 27, 41, 48, 49, 69, 511; Mrs., 103
 Pillion clothes and horse clothes, 491-2
 Pillory, repair, 525
 Pipes, 407, 588, 593, 594
 Pippen, Thomas, 420, (Ch.) 601
 Piscary, 474-5
 Pitson, C., 392
 Plague: doctor recommended, 100; deaths, 232; expenses on account of, 6, 71, 78, 92, 105, 109, 110, 134, 301, 323-4; measures to prevent spread of, 103, 222, 224, 227, 235, 260, 288, 376, 496, 503, 504; number of houses visited, 110, 114;

- pesthouse, 109, 120, 139, 224, 226, 235–6, 343, 377; relief of visited people, 92, 94, 109, 123, 134, 233, 235; regulations and consequences of, 3, 6, 101, 108, 109, 118–19, 128–9, 141, 157, 235, 323–4, 455; restraint of trade, 226; suspension of market, 103
- Plan of "Arthur Hall's plot," 302
- Players: Lord Albany's (Awbenyee), 107, 150; Lord Arundel's, 107; authorised by Lord Chamberlain, 203; Lord Beaumont's, 227; Chief Revels, 248; Children of the Revels, 98, 162, 190, 218, 239, 248, 296, 298; Lord Dudley's, 57, 78, 156, 207, 248; Lady Elizabeth's, 132, 150, 207, 218; Fortune Players, 203; Lord Gorin's, 296; Earl of Harford's, 57; Earl of Huntingdon's, 32, 57; Lord Kever's, 32; King's, 235, 239, 291, 293; Kyngt and company, 248; Lord Admiral's, 12; Lords of Privy Council, 51; Lord Leicesters', 296; Master of Babons, 56; Master of the Revels, 207; mistake in accounts, 172; Earl of Pembroke's, 248; payments to, 70, 98, 132, 139, 162, 190; Pollard and his company, 239; Prince's, 51, 107, 156, 203, 207, 227; with puppets, 239; Queen's, 51, 57, 70, 96, 119, 132, 139, 150, 156, 172, 203, 227; regulations, 51; Lord Shandos', 32; that showed 'Etalion Motion', 195; Slater and his company, the King's players, 235; Lord Stafford's, 32; Earl of Sussex's, 156; Swynnerton and his company, 195, 248; Terry and his company, 195; Townsend and fellows, 218; Vincent and his company, 203; of the Whitechapel, 98; Earl of Worcester's, 12; Youth of Bristowe, *see* Prince's
- Plow land in South fields to be laid to grass again, 214
- Plowing, 202, 519, 533
- Plowman Lane, 29
- Plummer, Edward, (Ch.) 601, 606
- Poaching, 64
- Pochin, Thomas, 438, (Sh.) 519, 525
- Poe, William, 295
- Pole, Anthony, 408
- Pollard: Dannett, 402; Edward, churchwarden, 439, 456, 478–9, 529, (Ch.) 533, 601; John, 562; Thomas, 55, 69; William, 28; —, 369
- Poole: Hardymond, 21; Richard, 584
- Poor freemen, gift to, 162
- Poor men's boxes, 248, 261, 483, 541, 559
- Poor, Overseers of the, 246, 253, 269, 419, 474, 585
- Poor Relief: arrangements and payments, 13, 19, 27, 93, 99, 106, 134, 188–9, 253, 254, 262–3, 286, 408, 514, 585; in gaol, 96; gifts and bequests, 140, 177, 190, 252, 292, 294, 303, 310, 325–6, 331, 334, 377, 456; work, 101, 102–3; *see also* Barley, Bread, Coal, Corn
- Portage money, 191
- Portage and poundage, 504
- Porter, 11
- Portmote Court, 13, 82, 89–92
- Post for correction of rogues, 57
- Post horses, 60, 62, 335, 344; *see also* Horses, hire of
- Post house, 551
- Postmaster, deputy, instructions, 511–12
- Postmaster, *see* Stapleford, Thomas
- Postmaster, Lichfield, 370
- Posts, foot, 423, 469; *see also* Moore, Bartholomew; Lichfield, 393
- Posts and chains about town, 472
- Potle, —, Bachelor in Physic, 100
- Potts, Cuthbert, 8
- Poulterers, orders to restrain excessive gain by, 200–1
- Poultney: John, 310, 311; —, 295
- Poultry, 69–70, 140, 214, 544
- Powell, Morris, weaver, 17
- Power, Griffith, 445
- Poyner: James, 508; Jane, 199; Thomas, musician, 53
- Pratt: John, M.P., 395, 415–16, 592; Captain, 412; —, 346
- Preacher, poor, 97
- Preachers and ministers, 9–10, 13, 27, 45, 46, 115, 190, 229–31, 248, 253, 262, 275, 291, 295, 311, 334, 339–40, 345–6, 353, 364, 393, 399, 400, 401–2, 404, 407, 411, 412, 471, 473, 481, 512, 580; *see also* Angel, John; Barton, —; Newton, John; Pyke, —; Sacheverell, Thomas; Syme, William
- Preceptory of Rothby, 413
- Prerogative Court of Canterbury, 326
- Presbury, Thomas, 445
- Presgrave, Francis, 4, 5
- Prettyman, Sir John, M.P., 522, 532, 535, 545, 600
- Price: David, 517; John, 20, 396; —, 405, 406
- Priddy, —, chirurgeon to Col. Overton's regiment, 392
- Pride, Colonel, 440
- Priest, Romish, convoys to guard, 551
- Prince, George, 38
- Prison, *see* House of Correction
- Prisoners: upon bail, list, 549; calendars of, 250, 426, 495; relief of, to prevent begging, 32; of war, 334, 455, 427; of war, Scotch, 392
- Privy Council: 6–7, 41, 70, 99, 150, 237, 261, 264–5, 265–6, 305–6, 498, 546, 505–7; Clerk, *see* Wade, Sir William; letters from, 1, 10, 146, 212, 297, 514–15; letters to, 262, 268, 486, 552–3, 555; Lords of the, 22, 222, 539
- Probate of Wills, register for, 434
- Proclamations, 324, 406, 425, 456, 472
- Profits, maximum, 200
- Profits and perquisites of the Courts, *see under* Courts
- Protestants, relief of, 332, 432
- Protestation, the 307, 311
- Psalms, allowance for printing, 530

- Pulton's *Abridgement of the Statutes*, 290
 Pulton, *De Pare Rege*, 290
 Pumps, common, 457
 Purnes, Ralph, 223
 Purses, 317, 473
 Pursey, 586
 Pusey, Rowland, 96, 130, (M.) 166, 167, 173, 177, (M.) 598
 Puskyn, —, 50
 Putcheon, —, 291
 Pyke, —, 404
- Quakers, 421-2, 423-4, 472, 521
 Quarles, William, 438
 Quarries, 297
 Quarter Sessions, *see under Sessions*
 Quartering, *see under Army*
 Queen's arms, 472
 Queen's players, *see under Players*
 Queen's way maker, 11-12
 Queenborough, 318, 322
 Quillett of land, 111-12
- Racing, 595
 Radford, 38
 Ragg, John, 262
 Raie, —, 288
 Raleigh, Sir Walter, 7
 Randes, —, 34
 Randall, 304
 —, Raphe, 292
 Raphin, Robert, 448
 Rawlinson, Lord Commissioner, 594
 Rawl, John, 66
 Raymond (Ramond): Sir Jonathan, 553; Judge, 584
 Rayner, Thomas, 29
 Raynescroft, William, 157
 Rayson: George, 544; Henry, gentleman, 464
 Reade, —, 276
 Reales, 280
 Reanor, Andrew, ironmonger, 268, 296
 Rebellions and insurrections, 324
 Recognisances, sassary (certiorari), 174
 Recorder: appointment, 5-6, 211; correspondence with, 124-5, 126, 215; deputy, 571, 574, 579; *see also* Wright, Nathan; functions, 254, 259, 564, 570-1, 574; list, 597; power to make a deputy, 563; recommendations respecting office, 479-80; *see also* Chapman, Thomas; Harding, Robert; Harvey, Francis; Nicolls, Augustine; Winstanley, James
 Recorder of London, *see* Long, Sir Listebone
 Recorder of Northampton, 134
 Records, Town: care of, 132, 276, 378; rent rolls to be kept, 556
 Records (London), to be searched for information respecting Bishop's Fee, 267
 Recusants, 46, 159-60, 167, 172, 232, 249, 498
 Redcrosse, 237
 Red Cross Street, 544
- Red House meadows, 287
 Redley: James, 405, 412, 456, 460, 471; Richard, 292; —, 304, 586
 Reeve (Reeves), Thomas, 157, 292
 Reformed Churches, 437
 Registers, 416
 Registers, birth, 555
 Regulator, 593
 Religious services: illegal, 271-2; on account of plague, 224; refusal to attend, 522; sacrament, 232, 436, 437-8, 552; sermons, *see that title*; week day, orders, 272, 481-2, *see also* Tamworth, Christopher
 Remington, —, 469
 Remmington, Edward, of Dalbie, 222
 Rentall of Town, 343, 556, 558
 Rents, *see Chamberlain's Accounts passim*
 Repair of roads, *see under Roads and Streets*
 Repairs, payments on account of, 46, 57, 72, 78, 93, 98, 107-8, 120, 132-3, 139, 150-1, 156, 162-3, 183, 235, 239, 248-9, 253, 262, 276, 280, 291, 296, 298, 305, 311, 324, 343, 377, 398, 525, 530, 539, 544, 547, 580
 Repairs of bridges, *see under Bridges*
 Requests, Master of, *see Bacon*, —, 450
 Residence in parish, 547
 Revells Lane, 398
 Revenue, one year grant to Charles II, 482-3, 484
 Reynolds: Israel, 475; Colonel, 382-3, 392, 393
 Rhine, Prince Palatine, *see* Rupert
 Ribbons, 163
 Rich, Sir Henry, Kt., 140, 599
 Richardson: James, 248; Richard, 229; —, Head schoolmaster, 462; —, 156
 Richmond: Duke of, *see* Stuart
 Richmond, John, Duke of Rochester, 531
 Riders Dictionary, 438
 Ridgeley, George, musician, petition, 53
 Riding Academy, 525
 Right of way, dispute, 508
 Ringers and bell ringing, 139, 191, 342, 398, 425, 440, 472, 483, 510, 513, 517, 544
 Ringrose's piece, 585
 Riots: in church, 384-5, 393; enclosure, 60, 62, 64, 70, 71-2, 75
 Rivett, widow, 539
 Roads and streets: bad condition, 230, 377, 554; cleansing of streets, 101, 104, 163, 260, 302, 329, 367, 484, 496; construction, 294-5; through forest, 241, 279; obligations on householders to repair, 381-2; overseers of highways, 274, 419; paving, 305, 353, 377, 381, 494-5, 544; repairs, 2, 48, 78, 107, 108, 120, 132-3, 197, 201, 207, 242-50, 254, 298, 311, 432, 513, 530, 539, 580
 Robbery, 25
 Robert D — Corner, 249-50
 Roberts (Robards, Robartts): John, 471, 516-17, 557, 562, (B.) 598, (M.) 599,

- (C.) 603, 605, 606, 607; Joseph, 527, 562, (Ch.) 595, (B.) 598, (Ch.) 602; Pollidor, 292; Richard, tanner, 9; Robert, 9, 210; Sir William, 220; —, 508, 583; —, widow, 310
- Robinson: Danniell, 562; James, 29; Samuel, 556. (C.) 603, 606; William, 607; —, 239
- Rochester, Duke of, *see* Richmond, John
- Rockwood, Ambrose, Yorkshireman, 38
- Roddymans Lane, 544
- Rodes, John, 8
- Roe, George, 445, 460; John, 219
- Rogers: Christopher, 268; Thomas, baker, 383; —, 34
- Rolls, Master of, *see* Bruce, Lord
- Roman Catholics, legislation against, 534
- Romish Catholique League, war with Low Countries, 212
- Rood Dyke, *see* Rowe Dikes
- Roos, Lord, 525
- Rope, to help beasts out of ditches, 555
- Roses, 513
- Rosse, Francis, 457
- Roughead, Josias, of Bedford, 531
- Roullatt, Sir Ralph, 72-3, 392
- Rowe Dikes, 56, 163, 182, 201, 202, 248, 547
- Rowes (Rooe): George, 31, 55, 56; Robert, musician, 530; William, 8; —, master of the old Hospital, 3
- Rowlett, Gilbert, 301
- Rowley, John, 370
- Rowndell, 29
- Royal visits, arrangements and procedure, 2, 3, 10, 11-12, 20-1, 31, 32, 56, 57, 78, 123-5, 132-4, 141, 150, 151, 152, 162, 163, 274, 276, 277, 280-1, 314, 316-17, 322, 323, 497, 511, 594-5
- Rudings (Rudyns, Ruding, Ryding): Michael, 52, 66; Nicholas, 36; Walter, 31, 68, 197, 232; Walter, junior, 366, 375, 464, 543; William, 543; —, 248, 249, 439
- Rudyard (Rudiarde): Anthony, 296; Thomas, (M.) 315, 317, 345, 356, 599, 604; —, 156, 347, 371
- Rudyer, —, 230
- Rundletts, 10
- Rupert, Prince, 317-19, 322, 324, 327, 344
- Rushes, 32
- Russell: Edward, 3rd Earl of Bedford, 12; John, 30, 64, 75; Thomas, 6, 9
- Ruthin, H., 307
- Rutland, 210, 222
- Rutland, Earl of, *see* Manners
- Rye, 106, 126
- Sabbath Day: games prohibited, 408, 456; penalty for working on, 399; profaners, 498; regulations, 26, 54, 444; shop closing, 36-7
- Sacheverell, Thomas, preacher, 9-10, 72, 149, 150, 171-2, 217, 228-31; Thomas, 543
- Sack, *see under* Wine
- Sacrament, 436, 437-8
- Sacrilege, 495
- Sadler, 539
- Sadler, trade of, 491
- St Albans, General Monk at, 459
- St Anthony's Bridge, repair, 544
- St Augustin's Well, repair, 513
- St James's Chapel, 68, 69, 494
- St John's Hospital, 329, 559, 589, 595
- St John the Baptist, 46
- St John's House, 30, 150-1
- St John, Oliver, late Chief Justice, 466
- St Leonard's Church, 116-17, 345
- St Leonard's Parish, 182, 188
- St Margaret's, cow pasture, 270
- St Margaret's Church: dues and stipend of vicar, 340; disturbance in, 124; Prebend, 132, 468-9; *see also* Dixie, Younge; Walcote, Mr.; and Ward, Nathaniel; Prebendary, rent, 340; vicar, *see* Prebend
- St Margaret's Church Gate, 30, 378, 494
- St Margaret's Fields, farmers, allowance of 6d. a mile, 590
- St Margaret's Guild, 328, 362
- St Margaret's Guild Town obit lands, 478
- St Margaret's Parish: beadle, 273; extent, 14-15; rate for constable, 550; rents, 30
- St Martin's Church: bequest for maintenance of divine service, 212-13, 225-6, 234, 251-2, 290, 405, 407, 436; bell-ringers, 544; churchwardens, 47-8, 376, 444; disturbance in, 188; King attends service, 316; lector, 248; loft, 249, 587; taking surplus out of, 510; visiting preacher, 239, 393; vicar or minister, 404, 504; vicar: house, 580; stipend and dues, 340, 407; *see also* Barton, William; Holmes, Thomas; and White, —; references, 97, 267, 276, 494
- St Martin's, Oxford, 328
- St Martin's Parish: beadle, 273; clerk, 234, 248; contribution to wages of beadle for beggars, 278; fines from alehousekeepers, 188; gifts and bequests to poor, 405, 493; payments, 188; question of residence, 547; rate for constable, 550; sacrilege, 495
- St Mary's Church: churchwardens, 551; curate, *see* vicar below; Easter book, 344, 354; Mayor affronted at, 548; removal of books from chancel, 270-1; repair of chancel, etc., 108, 239, 248, 275, 276, 296, 417, 494, 517; sermon 514; sexton, 342; vicar, 398; *see also* Bent, —; Bond, Josiah; Bonnet, John; Foxe, —; Jesson, Thomas; Tapper, Theophilus; Willowes, John; no vicar, 439; vicarage, 291, 550-1, 555; vicarial tithes, dues etc., and stipend of vicar, 68, 69, 269, 273, 340, 374, 377, 393, 397, 406, 439, 442, 479, 525, 543-4, 580
- St Mary's Churchyard, herbage, 68, 543
- St Mary's Closes, 21, 73, 235, 237, 328
- St Mary's fields, *alias* Grange lands, 275

- St Mary's Meadow, *see* Mary Meadow
 St Mary's Parish; beadle, 273; boundaries, 402, 404, 508; bridge in, 151; fines from alehousekeepers, 188; gifts to poor of, 385, 391, 405; mortuaries, 68; poor relief, 73, 188, 335, 547; rate for constable, 550; repair of streets, 120, 250, 381
 St Nicholas' Church: churchwarden, order, 47-8; gift for maintenance of preacher, 190; dues, tithes etc., 235, 340; vicar, *see* Angell, John; *and* Wright, —
 St Nicholas' Parish: beadle, 273; rate for constable, 550; rents, 8, 28, 29, 31, 68; union with St Mary's parish, 401-2, 404
 St Nicholas' Shambles, *see* Shambles
 St Omer, defeat of Prince of Orange, 547
 St Peter's Parish, 9
 Saint Savuer, —, warden of new hospital, 118, 132, 133
 St Sunday's Bridge, 105, 130, 281, 313, 324, 392, 527
 Salisbury, Earl of, *see* Cecil
 Sallow Close, 493
 Salt, 343
 Salte, the great, gilding, 217
 Salters, 153
 Saltpetreman, 248
 Sampson, Nathaniell, 68, 69; John, 356
 Sanctuary, 259
 Sanderson, Colonel, 400, 408, 412, 447-8, 458, 460
 Saturday Market: admissions, 373; bench under elm tree, 72; clerk, 373; coals, 168; fair moved to, 105; Leather Hall, *see that title*; new buildings, 43-4; rents and fines, 97, 237, 302, 335, 390-1, repair, 97, 98, 108; room for Mayor and Justices, 208; Shoemakers' Row, 236; shops, stalls, sheds, 43-4, 97, 98, 236, 237, 311, 390-1, 412, 582; stocks, 120; *see also* Market Place
 Savage: Richard, shepherd, 30; William, Master of Fence, 190; William, 526
 Savile: Sir Henry, 156; Captain, 157
 Savoy, Duke of, 432
 Say and Seale, W., 330
 Saywell, *see* Seawell
 Scales and weights, (coal), 2
 Scampton: Francis, shoemaker, 29; John, mercer, 545
 Scapulars Lexicon, 438
 Scarburgh, Robert, 583
 Scarfire, 156, 157
 Scarlet Days, 514
 Scholar, poor, gift to, 97
 Scholarships to Oxford, 432-3
 School: bequest, 441; cleaning, 249; decrees for, 399-400; fire hearths, 544; loan, 495; schoolmasters, *see that title*; orders and rules, 357-8; scholars to deliver speech in Latin, 125; stone tablet, for names of benefactors, 72; text books, 438; visits to, 291, 399-400, 541; watchman, fee to, 183, 417; windows, repair, 183, 539, 541; work done at, 281
 School house, 8, 191, 544, 548
 Schoolhouse Lane, 163
 Schoolmasters: Head: appointments and changes, 183, 247, 248, 289, 548, 556; dinner and beer on Day of Thanksgiving, 473; gifts and bequests, 292, 493, 494, 504; house, 8, 395; petition respecting appointment of public preacher, 229; salary, 231, 252, 364, 381, 551; shutting out, 183, 191; temporary, *see* Wright, —; *see also*, Angel, John; Aston Robert; Billers, John; Burrowes, St John; Duckworth, —; Gilbert, Thomas; Hill, —; Richardson, —; Stanley, William; Thomas, —; Thorpe, —; Wakeman, —; Wood, —; Head Usher: gifts and bequests, 191, 195, 405, 504; salary and maintenance, 72, 131, 398; *see also*, Dyson, —; Holman, —; Thorpe, —; Under Usher: gifts and bequests, 195, 405, 493, 504; gift to, on condition of teaching poor scholars to write, 171-2, 195; salary and maintenance, 72-3, 101, 392; *see also* Coleman, —; Hunt, Thomas
 School for gentlewomen scholars in loft in St Martin's Church, 587
 Scolding Cart, 261
 Scotchies or gutters, 295
 Scotland, 11, 32; headquarters in, 477; rebels from, 300, 581
 Scottish Army, packet of letters sent to Parliament, 343
 Scottishmen, gifts to, 12, 291
 Scouting, 593
 Scrapttofe, 9, 111
 Screvelines Lexicon, 438
 Seagrave, Nicholas, 334
 Seals, new, provision of, 331, 365, 366, 377
 Seaman, Doctor, 534
 Seawell, Thomas, painter, 64, 75
 Secrecy of debates of Mayor and Council-lors, 338
 Secretary of State, *see* Wynwood, Sir Ralph
 Sectaries, 259
 Seditious speeches, 549, 551
 Senvey Hill, 202
 Senye Gate, 8, 30, 199, 527, 540, 583
 Sequestered Estates, 340, 345-6, 352
 Sergeant to keep order in market, 484
 Sergeants at Mace, *see* Macebearers
 Sermons: hospital, 505; regulations, 482; Spanish, 441, 455; special occasions, 514, 589; Sunday, 482, 494; weekday, 272, 290, 399, 407, 481, 482
 Servers, 46
 Sessions of the Peace: dinners, 478, 541; power to hold, 574; orders, etc., 151, 192, 586; Quarter Sessions, 42, 124, 134, 152, 154, 586; three to be held instead of two, 360, 365
 Severn bridge, 209
 Severn leys, 182
 Sextons, 425

- Shakespeare, Thomas, of Lutterworth, 112, 119
 Shambles, 89, 285, 302, 480, 488
 Shambles and Drapery, 392, 474, 481, 551
 Shambles house, 169–70
 Shambles, weekday, or St Nicholas Shambles, 558
 Sharman, *see* Sherman
 Sharmanson, —, 146
 Sharnford, 223
 Shawe, Richard, trunkmaker, 361
 Shawell, 70, 78
 Shearsby, minister, *see* Moore, Mr
 Sheene: Thomas, 276, 292, 293, 296, 322; William, 46, 57
 Sheep: 24, 242, 542; fairs, 246; pease and beans not to be used for food in 1622, 200
 Sheep pen Lane, 539
 Sheep pens, 8, 56, 283–4, 362–3
 Sheepardon, Robert, 439, 442–3
 Sheeres: George, 527; William, 544, 587
 Sheet hedge wood, 170
 Shelberie, John, 7
 Sheldon, Gilbert, Archbishop of Canterbury, 515
 Shenton, Robert, junr. of Barwell, 369
 Sheppety Camdyn, 33
 Sherard, —, 361
 Sheriff, 10, 11, 297
 Sheriff: *see* High Sheriff
 Sheriff, Under, *see* Pilkington, John
 Sheriff's House, 10
 Sherman (Sharmen, Sheirman): John, 108, 119, 120, 132, 149, 150; J., 433; Thomas, clerk, 551; William, 197, 403, 442, 464; —, 106, 185–6, 449, 450, 527, 585
 Sherrard, Lord, 525
 Sherwin (Sherwyn): Charles, 411, 412; Nicholas, mercer, 390, 420, 556, 605, 606; Richard, (Ch.) 400, 426, (Ch.) 601; —, 412, 460, 464; —, vicar of St Margaret's, 586
 Shilcock, —, 491
 Shilton, John, 155
 Ship money, 281–3, 284, 291, 292, 296, 297; collectors, *see* Blount, Thomas; Ward, William
 Shipping, strengthening desired by King, 536
 Shipton: Nicholas, shoemaker, 186; Marie, 186
 Ships, rebel, on coast of Scotland, 581
 Shirley, Sir Henry, Kt. and Bart., and High Sheriff, 219–20
 Shittlewood, *see* Shuttlewood
 Shoemakers: Leather Hall for, 461; shops and stalls, 97, 326; wares from remote parts, 351; *see also* Cordwainers
 Shooting, 202
 Shop, the old, 120, 247, 343
 Shop and chambers, 29
 Shop and sheds, Castle Mills, 392
 Shop windows, nailed up, 377
 Shops, 26, 29, 43–4, 97, 99, 237, 311, 328, 390–1
 Short branneley, 255
 Shove grote, 402
 Shovelmaker, permission to trade, 469
 Shovels, 48
 Shrewsbury, Earl of, *see* Talbot
 Shuttlewood, George, 54, 66, 72, 130, (Ch.) 600
 Silbie, Robert, 496
 Silver: basin, 162, 190; bowls, 280; collars for musicians, 151; clipped, 247; cups, 3, 11, 32, 57, 98, 133, 182; ear-piece, 494; ewer, 280; maces, 4, 473; money, 25; sale of Town plate, 325, 329; seal, 183; spoons, 247, 406, 585; tankards, 482, 488
 Silver Street, 68
 Simes, —, 471
 Simkyns, Thomas, 9, 164
 Simpkin, Zacharie, 37, 173
 Simpson (Simpson): Raphe, 293; Richard, 8; Thomas, 527, 562, (B.) 598, (Ch.) 602; William, carpenter, 132; William, 222, 529; Zachary, 543; —, 226
 Sims (Symms): Nathaniel, roughlayer, 294–5; —, town lecturer, 426, 478; —, 412
 Single women, old, bequest for, 504
 Singleton, William, 363
 Siston, 239, 362, 478
 Siston Mills, 362, 478
 Sizers, proceeds of sale, 247
 Sizes, *see* Assizes
 Skeffington, J., 255–6
 Skellett, John, 552
 Skelton, Richard, 585
 Skins, 37
 Skins and sells, to be brought by butchers with flesh, 41
 Skipwith, Sir Henry, 3, 32, 60, 70, 93, 137, 239, 599
 Skynner house, 23
 Skyppon, Major General, 363, 392
 Slater: John, 181; William, 422
 Smalley: Francis, gentleman, 336, 383, 442; John, 27, 30; —, 186
 Smart, John, 188
 Smith (Smythe): Daniel, 421, 606; Erasmus, 454, 456; Sir Francis, Kt., 120; Gilbert, of Smythland, 193–4; Henry, 164; Humphrey, 238; John, 164; Mary, 122; Richard, tanner, 8; Roger, 299, 596, 600; Thomas, milner and carpenter, 66, 68; Thomas, tanner, 220, (M.) 262; Thomas, (F.) 145, 219, (B.) 597, (M.) 599, (Ch.) 600, (C.) 602, 604; Sir William, Kt., 121–2, 136, 151, 211, 238; William, 123, 305, 342; Captain, 406; —, of London, 149; —, of Long Whatton, 377; —, Romish priest, 551; —, 262; widow, 310
 Smiths: order respecting hearth tax, 518; payment to, 276
 Smitharse, Samuel, 292
 Smyrna fleet, 535

- Sneape: James, 267, 305; Margaret, 477
 Snellyn, —, 238
 Soar River, 73, 197, 221, 474
 Soaresby, —, 585
 Socc, 182
 Soil, quality of, 396
 Solemn League and Covenant declared illegal, 493
 Solicitor, town, *see* Browne, William, and Major, John
 Somerfield: George, of Kyrbye Muxloe, yeoman, 10, 55; George, 119; John, 238, 295, 325, 339, 345, 394, 419, 466, (B.) 598, (M.) 599, (Ch.) 601, (C.) 602, 604, 605; Thomas, (Ch.) 354, 420, 601, 604; Thomas, crier, 392; William, 527; —, 284, 335, 393
 Somerset, Edward, Earl of Worcester, 12
 Sorcery, *see* Witchcraft
 Sore, *see* Soar
 Sotherne, Richard, 173
 Southampton, Earl of, 486
 Southfield ale, 255
 Southfield hill, 255
 Southfields: division of land, rents and leases etc., 10, 31, 104–5, 181, 201–3, 210, 211, 513; farmers, allowance of 6d. a mile, 590; low pasture, 130; ploughing and depasturing, 533; stones for repair of highways, 48; taxes, 363, 377, 392; tithe dispute, 374; tithe hay and herbage, 68, 287, 543; use of, for pasture, rules, 24
 Southgate, 9, 29, 94, 101, 105, 171, 190, 281, 334, 343, 372, 378, 405
 South Gate bullhouse, 10, 55
 South Gate Pool, 32
 Southgate Street, 508
 Southgate ward, taxes, 540
 Southwell (Southall, Suthwell), William, 474, 481, 508, 511, 526, 529, 560, 562, 563, 583, 587, 593, (B.) 598, (M.) 599, (Ch.) 601, (C.) 603, 605, 606, 607
 Sowfield, *see* Southfield
 Spanish Ambassadors, 23, 159
 Spanish Armada, 441
 Sparkenhoe, 168
 Sparkenhoe Deanery, 285
 Sparkenhoe hundred, 382–3, 580
 Sparkes (Sparke), William, 195, 223
 Speechley (Speachley, Speehey): William, 197, 198, 238, 292, 325, (M.) 387, (Ch.) 411, (B.) 598, (M.) 599, (Ch.) 601, (C.) 602, 604, 605; —, 254, 322, 378
 Spence, Robert, 421, 606
 Spencer: Anthony, 207; John, President Corpus Christi College, 100; Robert, Lord, 169–70, 202, 203, 211; Robert (Ch.), 533, 607
 Spindaloe, 212
 Spittle Bridge, 580
 Spittlehouse bridge and causeway, 107, 108
 Spittlehouse, 227, 254
 Spools in stocking making, 537–8
 Spriggs, John, 9
 Springthorpe: Edward, labourer, 530; William, 562, (Ch.) 602, 607
 Sprittle staff for Town Hall, 440
 Spurling, —, 193
 Squires, —, 455
 Stable rent, 31
 Stacy, William, 528
 Stafford, Edward, Lord, 25, 32; John, 311, (Sh.) 338, 489
 Stafford gaol, 25, 27
 Stafford, coal from, 241
 Staffordshire foot soldiers, 472
 Stallage, 143
 Stallington, John, 262
 Stalls, 43–4, 302, 582
 Stamford (Lincoln), 158
 Stamford, Earl of, *see* Grey, Henry
 Stamford (Stanford): Henry, 71; John, recorder, death, 5, 597; John, 128–9; Richard, 66; Robert, butcher, 212; Robert, (F.) 145; Thomas, (F.) 66, 108, 145, 219; William, 161
 Stanhope: Sir John, 249, 600; Lady, 162; Philip, Earl of Chesterfield, 281, 489
 Stanley: Anne, 54; Elizabeth, Countess of Derby, 70, 73; John, 495, 504; Mary, 528; Robert, mercer, 309, 390; Thomas, mercer, 97; William, senior, 504; William, M.P., 419–21, 433–4, 435, 437–8, 446, 447, 453–4, 454–5, 466–7, 479, 495, 600; William, 295, 298, (M.) 301, (M.) 356, 368, 381, 419, 441, (B.) 598, (M.) 599, (Ch.) 601, (C.) 602, 603, 604, 605, 606; —, 33, 292, 346, 371, 407, 428, 441, 463, 494; widow, a recusant converted, 172, 191
 Staple: Leicester made a staple town, 170–1, 172; Wool Hall, 172; Merchants, 173, 183
 Stapleford, Thomas, 39–40, 71, 98
 Staples land, rent, 70
 Stapleton, Thomas, postmaster, 39–40
 Star Chamber, 13, 14, 291
 Staesmore: Francis, 194; —, (Justice), 193
 States' arms, 406, 412
 Statutes: Act of Indemnity, 465; Act of Supremacy, 126; Act of Uniformity, 126; of Acton Burnell, 180; beggars, 201, 246, 485; burial, 550; clerk of the, 468; Conventicle Act, 557; Corporation Act, 498, 552–3; dressing and eating flesh, 155, 161; for hospitals, 446, 447, 581; House of Correction, 150; malting, 74, 152, 153; of Merchants, 180; oath of bailiff, 308; for ordering forces in the counties, 583; plague, 110; recusancy, 159; registers, 416; return of member of Parliament, 338; residence in parish, 547; sale of cloth, 311, 448, 462, 476, 491, 492; sale of wine, 6–7; tax of £4,000,000, 324; various, 17, 21, 74, 95, 127, 177, 343, 394, 439, 502, 514–5, 546; weight of bread, 106
 Staveley, Thomas, 498, 551

- Staves: Chamberlains, 280, 331, 342; constables, 133, 323, 405-6
 Steeres, George, 562, (B.) 598, 602
 Stephens...Dictionary, 438
 Stevenson, Edmund, 223
 Steward, 49, 96, *see also* Freeman, John, Oneby, John, and Ward, —, and Town Clerk
 Steward of the honour of Leicester, *see* Grey, Lord, of Grooby
 Steward, King's, 13, *see also* Ward, Thomas
 Stewardship: alternating right of appointment, 91-2; appointment, 17, 277, 278-9; conflicting claims, 76, 77, 89-92, 93, 453; difficulties, 28, 109; King's recommendation, 33; otherwise called office of Town Clerk, 84; payments, etc., 99, 108, 109; terms of charter, 83
 Stockden, William, 312
 Stocking making, 536-8
 Stockingmakers, petitions, 455, 536-8
 Stocks, 12, 120, 170, 408, 495
 Stoë, —, 412
 Stokes, Robert, 54, 198
 Stone for repairs, 183, 276, 432
 Stone gatherers for repair of roads, 197
 Stoney Stanton, 223
 Stoneystratford, 33
 Stonley Abbey, 323
 Stonley Castle, 317
 Storehouse, sale of, 213
 Storie: John, 345; Richard, 236
 Stoughton, 111
 Strangers, *see* Foreigners
 Straw for walls, 547
 Street Book, 530, 541
 Streete, Judge, 584
 Streets, *see* Roads and Streets
 Stretton, 111
 Stretton, William, 384-5, 398, 527, 562, 594, (Ch.) 602, 607
 Stringer: John, 606; Thomas, 296, 333, 339, 420, (Ch.) 601, (C.) 602, 605; —, of London, 156
 Stuart: Lady Arabella, 46, 78; Lodovick, Duke of Richmond and Lennox, 475, 476; Richard, 326
 Stubbins, William, 528, 562, (B.) 598, (C.) 603, 605, 607
 Stubbs: Anthony, 489; Peter, 585
 Stulpes, 377
 Sturges: Thomas, mercer, 427, 458, 606; William, labourer, 17; —, 474
 Styton, John, 29
 Subsidies, 109, 225, 249, 255-6
 Suburbs, 16, 53, 490, 500
 Suffolk, Earl of, *see* Howard, Thomas
 Suffolk, George, 311
 Sugar: gifts, 10, 11, 32, 46, 56, 70, 78, 97, 119, 139, 150, 182, 190, 239, 249, 276, 298, 324, 353, 393, 364, 378, 393, 398, 406, 407, 440, 446, 497; hard, 489; loaf, 31
 Suits of Law, *see* Lawsuits
 Sumner, William, botcher, 358
 Sunmers, William, 334
 Sunday Bridge, *see* St Sunday's Bridge
 Surveyor, 293
 Suthwell, *see* Southwell
 Sutterby, Francis, 223
 Sutton: Christopher, 17, 53, 69, 209, 250-1, 259, 368; Edmund, 403, 562, 585, (B.) 598, (M.) 599, (C.) 603, 605, 606, 607; George, 153; —, Dean of Derry, 276; —, 34, 269-70, 513, 583
 Swan Lane, 235
 Swanne (Swane): John, 197; Thomas, 202, 231
 Swannington, 434, 460
 Swans Mill, 595
 Sweetmeats, 544, 555
 Swepson, 555
 Swine: not to be allowed to stray, 260; in Grange lands, restrictions, 214; pease and beans not to be used for food in 1622, 200; tack of, payment for blowing horn, 78-9; tithe pigs, 68, 543
 Swineherd, town, 78, 291
 Swine market, 70, 528
 Sword, old, 247
 Swynfen, John, 336
 Swythland, 193
 Sydenham, Colonel, 466
 Syme (Symes): William, lecturer, 417, 464, 481; —, 412, 447
 Symonds, Matthew, (T.) 587
 Syms, *see* Sims
 Sysonby, 339
 Syston, Thomas, 455-6
 Syverne, *see* Severn
 Tacke of swine, 79
 Taffata Levin, for drummer, 163
 Talbot, 46
 Talbot: Charles, 535; Gilbert, Earl of Shrewsbury, 3, 11, 12, 32, 57, 70; Elizabeth, Countess of Shrewsbury, payment to, 32, 57
 Tallage, 143.
 Tallis, William, 206
 Tallow, search for, among butchers bringing flesh to market, 41
 Tamworth: Christopher, bequest from, for reading divine service twice every weekday, 212-3, 221, 225-6, 234, 247-8, 250, 251-2, 290, 405, 407; Mr, (Ch.) 27, 34, 49, 234; Christopher, stewardship, (St.) 83, 91, 99, 109; injunction, 49
 Tanners: country, 461; shops, leases, 97; trade, 515, 516-7
 Tapley: Richard, 415; William, 415; —, spinster, 415
 Tapper: Nathaniel, hosier, 268; Theophilus, vicar of St Mary's, 555
 Tarlington: John, 388; Emma E., 388
 Tarrer=terrier
 Taster, the, 11
 Tatam (Tatham): Arthur, 28, 31, 362; John, (F.) 145, (Ch.) 600
 Tatham, lease, 478

- Taxation: aids, 93, 97, 99, 140, 149, 192; for army in Ireland, 330, 332, 336-7, 348; arrears, 146, 301; assessments, 232, 234, 318-20, 332, 333, 336-7, 406, 583; benevolences, 459-60, 479, 534; burden of, 15; collectors, 15, *see also* Hemings, Henry; and Palmer, George; exaction by soldiers, 387-8; forced loans, 233, 239, 317, 318-9, 323, 327, 337; Irish, 348, 377; local, 3, 24, 123, 152, 205-6, 274, 335, 348, 355, 359, 402, 540, 580, 586; military purposes, 38, 232-4, 237, 325, 329, 331, 333, 335, 355, 360, 363, 375, 377, 392, 393, 405, 406, 583; military, collector, *see* Birkhead, John; for relief of Plague, 92, 94, 96; ship money, 281-3, 284, 291, 292, 296, 297; subsidies, 109, 225, 249, 255-6; tax of four millions, 324
- Taylers house, 547
- Taylor (Tayler, Tayllor): Thomas, baker, 260; Thomas, 29, 66, 75; Thomas, of Wheston, 9; —, gift of oatmeal, 504, 517
- Taylor, apprentice, offence of, 491
- Taylor, gowns for women to be made by, 416
- Taylor's Close, 9
- Taylors farm, 9, 10
- Taylors: bodymaking, 516; Company of, 214, 236, 238, 239, 328, 358, 524
- Tedbury, 223
- Tedston, Agnes, 237
- Temple: Peter, J.P., M.P., 336, 338, 353, 385, 386-7, 600; Colonel, 406
- Temples Grange, 48-9, 50-1, 77
- Terrie, John, of London, 234
- Terrier (tanner, tertar), 164, 181-2
- Theadingworth Manor, 73
- Thefts, etc.: woodstealing, 121; surplus (?) out of St Markes Church, 510
- Thomas, —, head schoolmaster, 495, 551
- Thomasius Dictionary, 438
- Thomson, Thompson, *see* Tompson
- Thorneye, 223
- Thorneworth, Thomas, 223
- Thorneys, Colonel, 376
- Thornton (Thorneton): Humfrey, 54; Michael, 181
- Thornton, vicar of, *see* Ericke, James
- Thorpe: William, (F.) 66, 120, (F.) 145, 254, 255, (Ch.) 600; —, head usher, 431-2
- Thorntonant, 223
- Threckston, Sir Richard, 32
- Thrift, the, 542
- Thromaston mills, 134
- Thrumaston, Thurmaston, 239, 324
- Thrussington, 431
- Thurkistan, 426
- Thurnby, 111
- Tiais, Michael, 75
- Ticks for quartering soldiers, 588
- Tiffany, black, 452
- Tillage, decay of, 140, 396
- Tilton, 102
- Timber, 43, 132, 240-1
- Tippett, the, 69, 556, 557
- Tipson, Simon, 370
- Tirell, Sir Timothy, Kt., Master of Prince's Buckhounds, 210
- Tirlington, John, 496
- Tirringham, Francis, 124; Robert, 219
- Tithable meadowes, 31, 68
- Tithe hay and herbage, 9, 68, 287, 354, 360, 543, 592
- Tithe pigs, 543
- Tithes, 31, 67, 68, 69, 120, 226, 360, 366, 375, 392, 500, 525, 543, 585, 592
- Tobacco: payments on account of, 364, 378, 392, 398, 406, 407, 412-3, 418, 478, 511, 517, 534, 544, 555, 559, 588, 593, 594; permits to sell, 268
- Todd, Thomas, 405, 462
- Toll, 28, 42, 57, 65, 66, 74, 77, 78, 98, 142-4, 176, 183, 189, 261
- Tomkinson, Roger, 209
- Tompson (Thomson, Thompson): George, 222; Ralph, (F.) 145, 219, (B.) 597, (M.) 599, (Ch.) 600, (C.) 602, 604; Thomas, (F.) 145, 197, (Ch.) 533, 556, (Ch.) 602, 607; William, 356; —, 252, 318
- Tovey, —, minister of Lutterworth, 361
- Town arms, 12, 406, 585; ditch, 70
- Town Clerk: appointment and oath taken, 493; gifts and bequests, 346-7, 584; pay and allowances, 73, 343, 462, 530; travelling expenses, 304, 440, 478-9, 544; *see also* Aston, —; Bolyvant, Nicholas; Dethick, William; Hawfield, Roger; Huckle, John; Palmer, Edward
- Town Clerk and Clerk of the Peace, 96, 120, 314, 326, 410, 564, 573, 586, 595; list, 597; *see also* Dethick, William; Huckle, John; and Palmer, Edward
- Town gaoler, *see* Besweeke, Thomas
- Town gates, 12, 235, 274, 281, 324, 412; *see also* names of gates
- Town Hall: alterations and repairs, 46, 108, 248, 293, 397, 405, 412, 417, 551-2, 580; furniture, 353, 487, 546; King's arms, 397, 405, 472; letter delivered at, 39; old, 2; pavement before, repair, 494, 544; players at, 57, 78; pictures in parlour, 377; room for records to be made, 132; rooms in, 486-7, 546, 580; spritle staff for, 440; State's arms at, 412
- Town: Lecturer, *see* Symes, Mr; obit lands, 10, 28, 45, 328, 362, 478; plate, *see under* Silver; rents, collectors, 52; wall, 70, 182, 353
- Townsend: Edmund, 522, (B.) 598, (M.) 599, (Ch.) 601, (C.) 603, 605, 606, 607; John, millwright, 530
- Townsend Pool, 530
- Trade: Cloth, *see that title*; fines, 252; freemen, clause in charter, 258; freemen to sell in market towns only, 424; maximum profits, 200; by men not apprentices, 443; privileges, 13; public fast, 203;

- restriction of competition, 355; restrictions on account of plague, 222, 224, 226; retailing, linen cloth, 311
- Tradesmen: country, market fees, 76; oppressive fines, 137-8; young, bequest for, 109, 190
- Traitor, 494
- Traunters, 153, 196
- Travel, King's warrant, 56
- Travellers, help for, 224, 235, 253
- Trear, —, 261, 265
- Treasonable and seditious speech, 212, 347, 369, 465, 495, 531
- Treasurer, Mr, 265
- Treasurer at War, *see* Ashburnham, John
- Treene, Henry, 587
- Trent, river, 187, 324
- Trentnam, Thomas, labourer, 530
- Triple Alliance, 535
- Trumpeters, 11, 63, 218, 298, 311, 478
- Trymmyng, Robert, 30, 31
- Turks, 119, 268, 293
- Turlingham, Raph, 263
- Turlington, John, 197, 341, 425, 438; Robert, 607
- Turnepike, 504
- Turner: Edward, 124; John, 6
- Turpyn (Turpin): John, 40; Sir William, Deputy Lieutenant, 98; William, 76
- Turrett, Robert, of Kettlebye, 40
- Turville: Barnabas, Barnabey, 151, 209; Henry, 219; John, 292, 377, 398, 406, 469, 473, 492, 494; (Ch.) 601, (C.) 603, 605, 606; William, mercer, 268, 292, 296, (Ch.) 601; —, of Aston, 593; —, 417, 420, 464; Mistress, 208
- Tutburne, 379
- Twenty-four, the: conditions of office, etc. under Charter, 80, 561, 566, 574-5, 578; contribution to St John's Hospital, 589; discharge, petition for, 592; dress, *see under* Dress; election, 554; functions, 24, 63, 77, 94-5; former Mayors, Justices of the Peace, 453; lists, 298, 463-4, 562, 568, 587, 597; members of, 14; neglect to appear at fairs, 131, 139, 558-9; payments in default of appearance, 131, 139, 189, 263; payments, etc., 51, 149, 156; penalty for refusal to pay taxes, 146; procedure on fair days and holidays, 513-4; at the Proclamation of Charles II, list, 441; refusal to serve, 245-6, 247; refusal to take the oath, 244; taxation, 92, 145, 152, 234, 288; voting as to toll agreement, list, 66
- Twigden, William, 198, 238, 244-5, (Ch.) 601, 604
- Tyler, Thomas, 237
- Tyringham, *see* Tirringham
- Unemployment, *see* Work for the Poor
- Universities, committee for Reformation, 402, 404
- Unlawful assembly, 39
- Upper Pingle close, 213
- Uppingham, 28, 594
- Uttoxeter (Utceter), 393, 518
- Vagabonds, 201
- Vale, Thomas, 255
- Vane, Sir Henry, 466, 488
- Vaulting and other exercises, academy for, 525
- Vesey, John (churchwarden of All Saints'), 517, 522
- Vicarage House, 580
- Vicarial tithes, 226, 269, 360, 366, 392, 543
- Vice-Chancellor of Scotland, 46
- Vickers (Vicars): Thomas, tanner, 41, (Ch.) 600; William, 52, (F.) 66, 123, (F.) 145, (B.) 597, (C.) 602, 604
- Vickers (Vicars) closes, 55-6, 363
- Victuallers: licensed, dispute, 439; prevention of flesh dressing, letter *re*, 177-8; restraint of excessive gain by, 200-1
- Victualling houses, only four visited by plague, 114
- Villa pro burgo, 50
- Villiers: George, 1st Duke of Buckingham, 171, 172; George, 2nd Duke of Buckingham, 535; Colonel Sir George, Bart., 540; Sir William, 220, 249
- Vincent: Augustine, *alias* Rouge rose, 187; Francis, labourer, 17
- Vintners, 7
- Virginia, payment to poor men from, 134
- Virginia Plantations, lottery for, 175
- Visitation, 203
- Vyner, 503
- Wade (Waade); Samuel, 20; Sir William, Knight, 20, 27; —, 356
- Wadland: George, solicitor, 106, 150, 169, 172, 175, 176, 183, 184, 197, 203, 206, 208, 213, 234, 261, 277; John, 439; Thomas, 403, 446; —, 302, 508, 517, 544, 555
- Waetanes, George, 91
- Wages: allowances of bread and beer to labourers, 293, 530; building gates, 586; hemp dressing, 257; haymaking and mowing, 494; joiners, 257, 293; labourers, 12, 32, 398, 530, 595; labourers and servers, 293; masons, 293, 377, 513, 547, 586; rates for servants, 586; repairing roads, 530, 539, 544; wood work, 293; working on pipes of lead, and at pease well, 40
- Wages and materials, 12, 46, 57, 72-4, 78, 98-9, 276, 294, 313, 377, 398, 547, 552, 593; *see also* Repairs
- Wagstaffe: Anthony, Innholder, 591; Edward, 562, 595; —, 559, 585, 588
- Waifs and strays, 19, 28, 156, 460, 500
- Waite, Abaray, of Gainsborowe, widow, 427
- Waits and musicians: appointments, 484-5, 583; dress, 151, 236, 484-5, 516; Lord Hastings', 98; negligence in service,

- 236; payments to, 253, 510, 517, 541,
584; petition, 53
- Wakeman, —, 548
- Walche Hall, *see* Welch Hall
- Walcote, —, Prebend of St Margaret's,
188
- Wales, John, 8
- Wales, 38
- Walker: Henry, 445; John, 8, 9; Thomas,
glover, 29; Thomas, 66, (Ch.) 72, (F.)
145, 417, (Ch.) 600; William, 254–5, (F.)
587, (C.) 588; Doctor, 376
- Wallen, Thomas, (F.) 587
- Waller (? Walker), chamberlain, 73
- Walling, 547
- Walls, —, 217
- Walter (Walters), Hugh, (Ch.) 600; —,
234
- Walthall, John, 33, 73
- Walther, John, 28
- Walton, Michael, 29
- Wanders, *see* Beggars and Wanders
- Wandley, Edward, 66, (Ch.) 600
- Wanley: Jonathan, (Ch.) 601; Nathaniell,
clerk, 543; Samuel, 325, 364, 390, 419,
421, (T.) 441, (M.) 452–3; —, 318, 323,
356, 452, 453, 472, (B.) 598, (M.) 599,
(Ch.) 601, (C.) 602, 605, 606
- War: Civil, *see that title*; with France, *see
under* France; with the Low Countries,
see under Low Countries
- Warburton: John, 540, (F.) 587, Sir Peter,
Knight, 26; Robert, 197; William, 296,
376, 493, 498, 505–7, 510, 552–3, 587,
(Ch.) 601, 605, 606; —, 420, 464
- Ward: Elizabeth, 54, 171–2; Francis, 511,
518, 562, 569, (B.) 598, (M.) 599, (Ch.)
601, (C.) 603; Hastings, 254, 255;
Nathaniel, 399, 468–9; Roger, 356;
Peter, 527, 607; Richard, (Ch.) 601,
607; Thomas, King's steward, 14;
Thomas, labourer, 98; Thomas, 33–36,
57, 64, (T.) 66, 118; Thomas, 527, 562,
(B.) 588, (B.) 598, (Ch.) 602, (C.) 602,
607; William, 198, 295, 347, 355, 364,
(M.) 599, (Ch.) 601, (C.) 602, 604, 606;
William, Jun., 421, 478, 526, 529, 584,
(F.) 588; 606; —; bequest to poor, 385,
456, 478; —, 42, 43, 49, 50, 51, 59, 307,
371, 382, 386, 405, 463, 472, 508; Mrs, 27
- Wardly, Mary, 54
- Wards, division into, and arrangements for
government, 259
- Ware: Shirley, death caused by witchcraft,
250; Thomas, 250
- Warner: Anne, of Humberston, widow,
527; Lawrence, 248; Thomas, 257
- Warren, —, 412, 426
- Warwick, 38, 39, 190, 241, 313–4, 393,
406, 407
- Warwickshire: High Sheriff, *see* Bolton,
Edward; Lord Lieutenant, *see* Compton,
Lord
- Waste land, confirmation by charter, 490,
500
- Watch and ward: arrangements and pay-
ments, 336, 484, 489, 494; at gates, 313,
321; at night, 285, 288, 309, 382, 448;
on account of papist plot, 549; during
plague, 323–4; during presence of soldiers,
304, 317; *see also* Defence of the Town
under Army
- Watching place in south gate, 191
- Watchmen: for cut purses, 78; to help poor
travellers, 224; overseers appointed, 224
- Water passage against the mill, 302
- Waterlagge near the Blackfreers, 9, 474,
504
- Waterworks, 430
- Watery Lane, 120
- Watthawe, Thomas, 32
- Watkins, vicar of St Martin's, 290
- Watson: George, 354; Helen, 28; John,
226; Sir Lewis, 340, 345–6; William,
29
- Watts (Wattes): Henry, 151, 173, 191, 195,
199, 292; Henry, shoemaker, 292, 391;
Hugh, bellfounder, 17; Hugh, (F.) 145,
198, 211, (M.) 270, 271, 301, 327, 339,
403, (B.) 597, (M.) 599, (C.) 602, 604;
Robert, 37; —, 211, 250, 318, 378;
Mrs, 437
- Wayne, William, lunatic, sent to Bridewell,
414
- Weather, 134, 218, 224
- Weavers' Company, 206, 425
- Weavers, poor, bequest for, 326
- Webster: Anthony, 8, 66, (F.) 145; John,
164, 311; Robert, 151; Thomas, 272;
Samuel, (F.) 145; —, 164
- Weightman, Thomas, 606
- Weights and Measures: brass measures,
343; delivered to new macebearer, list,
480; firebrand for marking, 588; par-
ticulars, 120
- Welbye, Captain, 293
- Welch, John, milner, 31
- Welche Hall, 31, 68, 226, 360, 543
- Weldon: Thomas, Macebearer, 327–8, 344,
359, 370; William, 54, 97; —, 335–6
- Well plank, 68
- Well reeves, 372
- Wellam, 63, 71
- Wells, common, 372, 494, 520
- Wells: Joseph, mercer, 391; Richard, con-
stable, 388
- Wesson, Henry, 528
- West, Thomas, 529
- West bridge, 3, 12, 68, 108, 120, 121, 133,
201, 221, 235, 392, 513, 530, 539, 580
- Westcotes, 31, 68, 366, 375, 543
- West Gate, 8, 9, 12, 68, 73, 182, 324
- West Goscole, 168
- West Goscott hundreds, 382–3
- Weston: John, 236; Richard, Earl of Port-
land, 265
- Weytherborne, —, 28
- Whalley: William, 480; —, 393, 397
- Whalten, Jeffrye, 9
- Whatson, *see* Watson

- Whatton: John, 244, 245, 247, 403; William, 31, 182
 Whelden, *see* Weldon
 Whetston, 110, 254-5, 324, 427
 Wheytele, William, 28
 Whipping, 134
 White: Sir Thomas, 101, 102-3, 109, 163, 199, 325, 359, 473; Whalley, 354; —, Vicar of St Martin's, 296; —, 190, 307
 White Hall, bridge at, 235
 White rod, 14
 Whitehead: John, shepherd, 30; John, 422
 Whittle, Richard, joiner, 322, 363
 Wider, P., 296
 Wiggeston, 110
 Wightman, —, 9, 10, 54
 Wightman's Land, division, 42, 45, 48-9, 50-1, 52, 54, 58, 67, 69, 209
 Wigley: Anthony, 544; —, 412
 Wigston, William, 333
 Wigston's Hospital, *see* Hospital, William
 Wigston's
 Wilkes, Easter, fined for child playing on Sabbath, 408
 Wilbraham, Roger, 127
 Wilcocks (Willcox), John, 123, (F.) 145, 198, (Ch.) 600
 Wild woman, 195
 Wilde (Wylde): John, 66, 107, (F.) 145; Richard, 56
 Wilkes, Joane, widow, 529
 Wilkins: Anne, 529; John, 543, 562, 587, 592, (Ch.) 602, (C.) 603, 605; Richard, 594
 Wilkinson, Edward, 75; John, 75
 William III: coronation and proclamation, 594-5; defeat by French near St Omer and retreat to Ypres, 547; marriage to Princess Mary, 549
 —, William, commissioner for land, 238
 —, William (T.), to arrange about fire engine, 556
 Williams, Dr John, Bishop of Lincoln, 200, 225, 226, 251-2, 270-1, 276, 285
 Willoughby lands, 456, 584
 Willowe, —, 285
 Willowes, John, M.A., curate of St Mary's, 273
 Willows, —, 181, 302, 311
 Willows, shreadding of, 8
 Wilne (Wyline, Willis): John, (B.) 14, 64, 66, (B.) 83, 106, 112, 130, (B.) 597, 603, 604; —, 42, 50, 146
 Wilson: Joyce, 528; Mary, 528; Richard, 223; Samuel, 458
 Winbey: Thomas, 43, 54, 97, (F.) 145, (Ch.) 600; William, 54, 97
 Winch, Judge, 194
 Winchester, dean of, *see* Vong, Dr
 Windmill, 10, 52, 58, 67, 182, 202, 209, 231, 492
 Window rent, 8
 Wine: allowance for, reduced, 541; canary, 324, 363, 417, 559; claret, 10, 11, 31, 45, 46, 56, 70, 78, 139, 150, 156, 162, 190, 218, 249, 253, 280, 291, 293, 296, 324, 353, 363, 393, 406, 407, 497, 557, 559, 594; drawing of, licences, 55; 70, 104; gifts and payments, *see* Chamberlains' Accounts, *passim*; Rhenish, 11; sack, 31, 32, 45, 46, 70, 139, 150, 156, 190, 218, 239, 249, 253, 280, 291, 293, 296, 298, 311, 324, 353, 363, 364, 378, 393, 399, 406, 407, 497, 557, 558, 593, 594; watch on, 584; white, 11, 70, 78, 239, 291, 298, 324, 353, 364, 406, 407, 497, 558
 Wine office in Mark Lane, 4
 Winfield, Robert, 260, (Ch.) 601
 Winkall, —, 50
 Winniffe, Thomas, Bishop of Lincoln, 324, 330, 483
 Winstanley, James, Recorder, M.P., 420, 439, 442, 446, 447, 449-51, 456, 486, 479-80, 482, 597
 Winter, Robert, 38
 Wires, Elizabeth, fined for children playing on Sabbath, 408
 Wistowe, 111
 Witchcraft, 193-4, 210, 250, 398
 Wood: from forest, prohibited, 243; payments, 392; for poor, 442; sale to town, 135; stealing, 108, 121, 134, 135, 170
 Wood: Abraham, 457; Edward, 549, 562, 585, (Ch.) 602, (C.) 603, 605, 607; John, butcher, 28, 41, 209, 273; Marie, 188; Susanna, 448; Thomas, joiner, 257; William, 402; —, schoolmaster, 395, 426, 431
 Woodcock: Margery, 526, 529; William, sketch of land, 302
 Woodford: John, (T.) 66, 70, 106, (B.) 597, (C.) 602, 603; Robert, 122, —, 98
 Woodgate in St Leonard Parish, 182
 Woodhouse, Joseph, 309
 Woodland: Richard, 334; Samuel, 562, (C.) 603
 Woodrake, Richard, 422
 Wool: burial in woollen, 550; buyers and sellers to be rated towards repair of Wool Hall, 37; Leicester no place for making and dressing clothes, 461; for stockings, 536-8; woollen broadcloth, sale contrary to statute, 448
 Wool Hall, 37, 108, 172, 207, 214
 Wool Market, 13, 18, 86, 170-1
 Wool Staple, *see* Staple
 Woollen drapers, shop closing on the Sabbath, 36-7
 Woolley, Robert, 66
 Wootton, Thomas, 213
 Worcester House, commissioners at, 397
 Worcester: battle of, 406, 407, 412; Earl of, *see* Somerset, Edward
 Work for the poor, measures to provide, 199, 205, 246, 257, 259-60, 386
 Worlidge, 223
 Wormall, Edward, 37
 Wormell, Henry, 383
 Wormleighton, 169
 Worth: John, 552; William, 528

- Worthington, widow, 345
 Wright: Daniell, bonelace maker, 101, 102;
 Edward, 27; Frauncis, *alias* Ashwell, 370;
 George, 117; John, of Lapworth, 40;
 Nathan, Recorder, 553, 555, 561-2, 563,
 571, 582, 589, 597; Robert, 116, (B.) 219,
 278, (B.) 597; Thomas, baker, 106, 125-
 7; William, 237; —, 39; —, in Lincoln-
 shire, 38; —, vicar of St Nicholas, 216;
 —, minister, 426, 431, 473; —, of Thur-
 kistan, 426
 Writs: failure to make returns, 278; High
 Sheriff's election of burgesses, copy, 425;
 privilege, 50; proclamation for apprehe-
 nition of Jesuits, 42; quo warranto, 88, 501-
 545, 559; terms of charter, 88
 Wurtemburg (Wertenbeche), Prince of,
 98
 Wyarr, John, 8
 Wye, Richard, commissioner for land, 238
 Wye Close, 68
 Wylde, *see* Wilde
 Wyne, *see* Wilne
 Wynbie, *see* Winbie
- Wyncoll: J., 109; —, oration to King, 124-
 5, 133, 141
 Wyndham, Judge, 523
 Wynlye, Thomas, 66
 Wynterscalls House, 9
 Wynwood, Sir Raphe, 159
 Yates: John, 267; Richard, cutler, 108;
 Samuel, 157
 Yaxley, —, 428, 440
 Yelverton, Sir Henry, Attorney General,
 169
 Yeoman of H.M. seller 20
 Yeoman of the stirrup, 11
 Yeoman usher, 11
 Ynglesbye, *see* Inglesby
 Yong, Dr, Dean of Winchester, 253
 York: Archbishop of, *see* Neile, Richard;
 Court at, 314; Duke of, *see* James II;
 Duchess of, *see* Hyde, Anne, wife of James
 II
 Yorke, John, 119
 Yorkshire, woollen cloth bought in, 448
 Ypres, retreat of Prince of Orange to, 547



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